The Post

Sunday Special

NO. 609. [REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE AS A NEWSPAPER.] SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 1917. PRICE ONE PENNY.

LENS AND ST QUENTIN CAPTURE IMMINENT.

Another Splendid British Advance on Whole Front.

The capture of Lens and St Quentin may now be regarded as a matter of hours.

Sir Douglas Haig reports this morning the capture of Lievin, adjoining Lens on the north west, and Cite St Pierre on the north-west of the town.

In the course of Saturday our troops in a series of fierce encounters fought their way to within a few hundred yards of the town of St Quentin.

Heavy losses have been inflicted on the enemy during all day fighting south of the Scarpe, where the British are attacking the Hindenburg line.

THE NEW VICTORIES.

Press Bureau, Saturday Night.

The following despatch has been received from British General Headquarters, dated 9.35 p.m., Saturday:—

The town of Lievin, south-west of and adjoining Lens, was captured by us this morning. Considerable quantities of war material have fallen into our hands.

This afternoon we seized Cite St Pierre, north-west of Lens, and our troops have pressed on along our whole front from the Scarpe river to south of Loos, and have reached points from two to three miles east of the Vimy Ridge.

South of the Scarpe heavy fighting, in which the enemy has employed strong reserves, has taken place all day. Attacks and counter-attacks have followed each other at short intervals. Our troops have everywhere maintained the positions previously captured by us, and have inflicted serious losses upon the enemy.

WITHIN FEW HUNDRED YARDS OF ST QUENTIN.

We have made further progress during the day on a wide front north and south of the Bapaume-Cambrai road. In the course of a series of fierce encounters, all of which resulted in our favour, our troops fought their way forward during the day south and east of Fayet to within a few hundred yards of the town of St Quentin, and carried the village of Gricourt at the point of the bayonet.

The enemy resisted stubbornly, and in addition to the loss of over 400 prisoners taken by us suffered heavily in killed and wounded. An attempted hostile counter-attack was broken up by our artillery.

Yesterday and during the night of the 12th inst. large quantities of explosives were dropped by our aeroplanes with good results on enemy stations, ammunition depots, and aerodromes, and hostile infantry and convoys were successfully attacked with machine gun fire.

In the course of air fighting behind the enemy's lines four German machines were brought down and six others driven down. Twelve of our machines failed to return.

STRONG POSITIONS CAPTURED EAST OF VIMY RIDGE.

General Headquarters, Saturday, 11.38 a.m.

The village of Fayet, one mile north-west of St Quentin, was carried by our troops last night after a sharp fight.

On the high ground east of Le Vergier, we have captured the important positions of Ascencion Farm and Grand Priel Farm.

We have also made progress north of the Bapaume-Cambrai Road in the direction of Queant.

North of the Scarpe the constant pressure of our troops has compelled the enemy to yield further ground.

We have seized Vimy Station, Le Chandiere, and the enemy's positions at Fosse No. 6 and Paquet Mule.

Between Givenchy-en-Gohelle and Angres the guns taken from the enemy in this area included four 8-inch howitzers.

The ground gained in our recent operations now links up with the positions wrested from the enemy at the Battle of Loos, and includes the Double Crossier.

A raid attempted by the enemy during the night, east of Loos, was driven off.

NEW PHASE IN ARRAS BATTLE.

SMASHING A ROAD INTO ST QUENTIN.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LENS.

London, Saturday Night.

The despatch received to-night from Sir Douglas Haig is of vast importance, and contains the suggestion that very soon the valorous attack of the British Army will be rewarded by the capture of Lens and St Quentin.

With Lievin, an important position adjoining Lens, in our hands the tenure of that considerable mining town is made virtually impossible to the enemy, while the town is also threatened by the fresh advance reported to the north of the town.

Lens, which had a pre-war population of 27,800, is the centre of the coalfields of the Pas de Calais, which have an area of some two hundred square miles. A glance at the map shows how thickly the district is studded with pits. We need but recall the appalling disaster of 1906 at Courrieres, when thousands of men were killed in the blazing pits, to illustrate the magnitude of the mines. Lens was the objective of the partially successful French offensive in May-June, 1915, to drive the Germans from the Vimy Ridge, which protects Lens on the south-west. The Franco-British offensive in the closing days of September of the same year was a combined "pinching out" movement north and south of Lens. The French won the western slopes of the Vimy Ridge, and the British on the north advanced through Loos to Hill 70, two miles north of the town, but there the movement ended.

Sir Douglas Haig reports heavy all-day fighting south of the Scarpe, in which the enemy used large reserve forces. The enemy's concern in this region is for the Drocourt-Queant line, a switch of the Hindenburg line. It was expected the enemy would make a strong defence on this position.

The enemy is holding on to St Quentin to the last, and the British are now fighting their way into that bitterly-contested town. Fayel, a mile to the north-west, was taken in a night attack on Friday, and the heavy fighting reported this afternoon is indication of the tenacity of the enemy in this region. St Quentin, it is feared, will be but the shell of a city when the British enter.

BATTLE ROUND ST QUENTIN.

BERLIN SAYS ATTACKS FAILED.

London, Saturday Night.

To-day's German communique says:—

Western Theatre.—To the north-east of Arras and on the Scarpe a pause in the fighting followed yesterday.

Further south at Croiselles and Bullecourt the British, after violent artillery preparation, attacked in vain several times. In an after-thrust our troops inflicted considerable losses on the enemy.

On both banks of the Somme strong enemy forces again advanced against our positions at St Quentin. These attacks failed with heavy losses, the enemy leaving three officers and over 200 men in our hands as prisoners.

Since April 7 the heart of St Quentin has been bombarded with increasing violence by the enemy's artillery of all calibres without regard to the objects hit. The Palace of Justice, the Cathedral, and the Town Hall have already been seriously damaged.

OPEN FIGHTING IN PROGRESS.

(BY PRESS ASSOCIATION SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

War Correspondents' Headquarters, France, Saturday Night.

In reviewing the progress made by the British offensive during the past week, it needs a strong mental grip to realise the full extent and significance of our success.

A distinguished staff officer admitted to me last night that the development of the operations had almost exceeded the most sanguine expectations, and that one of the most gratifying aspects of the whole thing is that so much has been accomplished on such a relatively light casualty list.

I had enjoyed the privilege of a chat with this same officer on the eve of the great attack, and he then expressed the apprehension that we must be prepared for big losses in view of the great stakes we were about to try for. Seldom have I heard a man speak with more devout sincerity than when he rejoiced in his own miscalculation upon this point.

To the Germans the blow has been more severe than is yet possible to estimate. Several whole divisions have been so badly cut up that they will not be fit for further fighting for a good many weeks. Fresh troops have been hurried up and flung in to fight forthwith upon unaccustomed ground, and thus Hindenburg has been forced already to draw a heavy draft upon his much-talked-of strategic reserve.

British Superiority in Open Fighting.

The warfare has been carried right out into the open, and the British soldier is proving himself more than a match for his machine-like adversary. One of the most striking features of the present phase is the marked superiority which our men are displaying in field tactics. This is one of the many surprises of the war.

On the grounds of tradition and training we might well have expected the Germans to be better than our new army in this species of campaigning, but in every form of the open fighting now in progress our men are not only better but very much superior.

In outpost work, patrolling, machine gun stalking, and, not least of all, in hand to hand fighting, they are manifesting a splendid superiority over the Huns.

Prisoners' Disregard of Their Officers.

It is true that dry rot seems to have set in amongst the German troops. The great batches of prisoners in the concentration cages have for the most part behaved like an undisciplined rabble in their disregard for their own officers and non-commissioned officers. This is a very significant revelation. So much so that I should not indicate it were there any question as to the accuracy of what I am stating.

One has grown so accustomed to the servile submission of German prisoners to the word of command of their non-commissioned officers who are called upon to help our guards in the maintenance of discipline that the change seems ominous of a new condition of mind in the German Army.

Both officers and non-commissioned officers freely complain that the chief cause of the disaster which has overtaken them is the difficulty of controlling their men.

Seeing how many lads of the Bavarian 1918 class there are in the ranks of the prisoners I have seen this does not seem very surprising.

Another great factor of victory has been the wonderful efficiency of the British artillery. An old gunner officer told me that he has never seen such wonderful patching as the artillery groups accomplished prior to last Monday's attack. We are indeed now blasting our way to victory. The German artillery has done poorly on the whole in their fighting.

Prisoners complain that their batteries frequently fire upon their own patrols, but this is probably due in some measure to the fact that there are instances in which German soldiers are wearing many articles of British kit, which they have collected in the field, and this may well bewilder their gunners and snipers.

Shortage of clothing is admittedly becoming almost as marked as shortage of food in the enemy ranks. A week ago the rations of the troops were reduced. This is a bad preliminary to resisting such an attack as the British have launched against them.

Two Hundred Guns Captured.

I hear of further considerable captures of guns and howitzers, together with large dumps of ammunition, and that these are now being employed against their former owners. Trained teams of artillerymen are now detailed to accompany our infantry in their advance, so as to make prompt use of any guns which may be taken.

It is confidently expected that the total number of guns and howitzers captured by us must reach two hundred, and on balance this makes a very considerable difference respectively to the powers of aggression and the capacity for defence.

ENEMY SETTING FIRE TO LENS.

War Correspondents' Headquarters, France, Saturday.

The offensive is developing into a great push in the most literal sense of the word.

The success of the operations which began on Monday last has been greater than perhaps we realise as yet, and the Germans are being pushed along the line from Loos to goodness knows how far south.

It takes an army a long time to get away, however skilfully the retirement may be planned, and with a vigorous offensive clinging to its skirts the effort to avoid defeat may be crushed.

In this age of digging in it is very difficult to tell when a retreat has commenced from positions which have taken two and a half years to develop into invincible lairs, but when once the enemy is in the open he can no longer conceal his movements.

Fires and Explosions.

We are pressing the Germans very hard, and when they are forced back upon the line to which they have hastily to withdraw their guns and such stores as they have been able to get away decisive things may happen.

Fires and explosions were of frequent occurrence during the course of yesterday in the German back area. Fires in Lens itself were seen early in the morning, and conflagrations in this straggling mining town, which before the war had a population of 28,000, still continue.

The latest news this morning is a report that we have taken Fosse 2, which lies east of the famous Double Crassier, and also Fosse 6, north of Givenchy.

These fosses are great pyramids of slag, formed near the mouths of the coal pits, and are naturally adapted to the formation of very strong defensive positions.

STATES TO AID RUSSIA.

FORESTALLING ENEMY'S SEPARATE PEACE PLAN.

60,000 GERMANS UNDER ARREST IN AMERICA.

Washington, Saturday.

It is officially stated that the Government will probably proffer aid to Russia and other Allies to reorganise industries. It is believed that this will forestall the possibilities of a separate peace.

Over 60,000 Germans have been arrested in the United States since the declaration of war for spying and other offences.

It is understood an amendment to the new Army Bill, authorising Mr Roosevelt to take 100,000 United States troops into France, will be presented in the House on Monday.

An official announcement has been made to the effect that the war zone about American ports has been established. Vessels entering these areas after sunset will be fired on. The speed within the said war zone is limited to five knots per hour.

The Government, it is learned, intends taking over all the steamships owned by railway companies in the United States. They will be utilised for Transatlantic trade and the supply of the Allies.

Washington, Saturday.

The American labour leaders have been deeply gratified by the receipt of a cablegram from Mr Lloyd George agreeing with the suggestion made by Mr Samuel Gompers that a conference of Labour delegates should be held, at which the United States, Great Britain, and France should each be represented.

Mr Gompers suggested the names of Mr Appleton and Mr Bowerman as the British delegates.

SOCIALISTS MOVE FOR SEPARATE PEACE.

Central Powers' Delegates Visit Scandinavia.

Copenhagen, Saturday.

According to the Vossische Zeitung, the Vienna Socialist leaders—Adler, Renner, and Seitz—had a conference lasting three hours with Count Czernin, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs on Thursday.

Afterwards Herr Adler left for Berlin in order to accompany his German colleague, Herr Scheidemann to Copenhagen.

Herr Scheidemann, leader of the Majority section of the German Socialist party, it has been reported recently, actually visited Scandinavia with a view to intriguing with the Russian Socialists for a separate peace. His mission, which was no doubt inspired and paid for by the Berlin Government, has proved an utter fiasco.

The Executive Committee of the Russian Council of Workers' and Soldiers' Delegates, comprising representatives of all Socialist parties, has authorised the Petrograd Telegraph Agency to state that neither the committee nor the leaders of the Socialist parties have the least idea of any such negotiations, nor has any Russian Socialist party sent delegates to any such conference.

RUSSIA WELCOMES LABOUR REPRESENTATIVES.

"Unity" Inscribed on Banner.

Petrograd, Saturday.

The delegations of British and French Labour representatives to Russia arrived here this evening.

There were huge crowds both inside and outside the railway station to welcome them. Military and militia guards of honour with red banners were also present at the station to do honour to the visitors.

One of the banners which attracted particular attention was inscribed with the word "Unity." Bands played the Marseillaise as the visitors alighted.

CURIOUS CONDUCT OF AUSTRIANS.

ENTICING RUSSIANS FROM TRENCHES.

ENEMY'S HEAVY ARTILLERY BOMBARDS BRODY.

Petrograd, Saturday.

To-day's communique says:—

Western Front.

On all fronts scouting reconnaissance and reciprocal firing have taken place.

The enemy bombarded Brody with their heavy artillery, as a result of which some civilians were killed.

On various sectors of the front groups of Austrians with paper parcels in their hands came out of their trenches and making signals with flags endeavoured to entice our troops to approach them, but were dispersed by our artillery with shrapnel fire.

A number of Austrian officers and soldiers who have deserted on the Roumanian front declare that the Austrians and Germans are hoping that the various organisations in the interior of Russia, which are at the moment obstructing the operations of the Provisional Government, will bring about a state of anarchy throughout the country and demoralise the Russian Army. —(Admiralty, Per Wireless Press.)

TURKS DRAWN INTO TRAP.

BRITISH SUCCESS IN MESOPOTAMIA.

SEVERE LOSSES INFLICTED ON ENEMY

Press Bureau, Saturday.

On April 10, Sir Stanley Maude, withdrawing his advanced detachments on the right bank of the Diala, succeeded in drawing the bulk of the enemy forces on this flank in a south-westerly direction towards Deltawa. On the night 10-11th our forces made a night march from the neighbourhood of the left bank of the Tigris towards Diala and attacked on the morning of the 11th.

Fighting had temporarily to be suspended owing to the mirage, but on this lifting our offensive continued.

Our guns, with the able assistance of our aeroplanes, rapidly asserted their superiority. Late in the evening the enemy were driven from their advanced positions near Ghalikeh, ten miles north-east of Deltawa.

Early on the morning of the 12th the enemy withdrew six miles in a north-easterly direction to Seraijik.

Successful operations continued throughout the 12th and night of the 12th-13th, and General Maude on the 13th reported that we were following the Turkish forces which were falling back towards Deli Abbas.

It has been ascertained that the Turks lost 700 wounded during the fighting on the 12th, and on that day 200 Turkish dead were found on the battlefield.

Our total losses on this day were approximately equal to the Turkish killed.

SALONIKA FRONT.

ENEMY'S ATTEMPTED RAID FOILED.

London, Saturday Night.

The Secretary of the War Office announces:—With the exception of an unsuccessful attempt to raid our trenches and skirmishes between patrols, there have been no important developments during the past week on the front held by the British forces at Salonika.

Our aircraft have carried out several successful raids, on one occasion causing considerable damage to an enemy aerodrome, and on another to an enemy dump. A double-engined enemy battleplane was driven down, and its crew captured.

ARGENTINE SHIP SUBMARINED.

NEWS CAUSES GREAT IMPRESSION.

Buenos Ayres, Saturday.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs announces that he has received official information that the Argentine sailing ship, Monte Protegido, has been sunk off the coast of Europe.

The Government has ordered a minute inquiry to be held.

The news has caused a great impression. The newspapers say the vessel was sunk by a German submarine.—Reuter.

VESSEL TWICE SHELLED.

Buenos Aires, Saturday.

The Argentine sailing ship, Monte Proteged, which has been sunk by submarine, was twice shelled by the latter. One sailor was wounded.

BRAZIL SEIZES GERMAN SHIPS.

BLUEJACKETS CHEERED ON BOARDING.

Rio de Janeiro, Saturday.

Brazilian bluejackets occupied interned German ships amid cheers from the people.

The Minister of Marine has given naval commanders at various ports instructions to carry out the taking over of the ships with courtesy, but so as to ensure the gradually effective control by Government.

So far the transfer has taken place without a hitch, but in naval circles it is anticipated the inspection of the vessels will reveal that damage has been done.

The only port where the work causes apprehension is Pernambuco, where the majority of German ships are. But here the presence of a large naval detachment will command respect.—Reuter.

TRAWLER GIVEN UP AS LOST.

Ymuiden, Saturday.

The steam trawler Greuvers, which left here over a fortnight ago, has not returned, and has been given up for lost.

DUTCH SAILORS' TRIBUTE TO PLUCKY OFFICER.

London, Saturday.

The Liverpool Consul for the Netherlands sends for publication a signed statement by the Dutch survivors of the crew of the Kittiwake, which was recently torpedoed by a German submarine near the Dutch coast. The crew state:—We wish publicly to express our heartfelt gratitude to the commander, officers, and seamen of His Majesty's ship for their kindly and thoughtful care in rescuing us, and special mention should be made of one of the officers who boarded the ship, which was sinking and on fire.

MUNITION WORKS COMB OUT.

BADGES AND TRADE CARDS ABOLISHED.

NEW CERTIFICATES FOR PROTECTED MEN.

London, Saturday Night.

In order to meet fully the pressing need of the army for half a million men between now and July next, recently announced by Sir William Robertson, a large number of munition workers are to be set free for general military service.

The process of release will begin on 1st May, and it is intended that the men to be released shall be called up as far as possible in age groups, beginning with the younger men.

At the same time all skilled and other essential men engaged on shipbuilding repair and marine engineering will for the present be protected from recruiting. Similarly all men whose service is found to be indispensable for the output of munitions will be protected for the present.

Badge Certificates and Trade Cards to be Abolished.

The object of these exemptions is to safeguard the national interests and to utilise with the utmost efficiency and economy the man-power available for the essential purposes of the war.

The protection from recruiting will be given under a system that involves the cancelling of all war service badge certificates and the termination of the trade card scheme at present in operation in engineering, shipbuilding, and allied occupations.

Men who at present hold badges and trade cards should not, of course, assume that when their badges or cards are cancelled they will be called up. The new schedule protects all the indispensable occupations, and men who are protected by it will receive a new protection certificate, which will be sent them from the new area recruiting offices which will be established by the War Office.

GERMAN "NERVES."

Startling Hun Admission.

Amsterdam, Saturday.

Under heading "Nerves," the military critic of the Vossische Zeitung dwells on so-called, unfounded excitement, which, as he says, is now spreading among those at home.

He warns the public not to judge the situation from single events, but to take all events as a whole into consideration.

He mentions the many letters which he has received from readers, which prove that the nerves of many readers are suspiciously beginning to give way. He continues:—

Everyone to-day knows that we are waging a war of defence against gigantic superiority. It is impossible for us always with flying banners to march from victory to victory. This war is a struggle of life and death, not of equal against equal. We know that we, as regards numbers and strength of material, are inferior, but we have the confidence that we as a whole possess the nerves which, as Marshal von Hindenburg says, are necessary for final victory.

Confidence in Command.

"Every German behind the front should endeavour not to shatter his strength of nerve, even if any military event does not turn out as he desires. Confidence in our supreme army command is and remains the main thing. This confidence we may consider identical with good nerves." The writer, continuing, says:—"The situation around Arras is just what we might expect. The reverse near Arras clearly proves to the man who has followed all the events of the world war in its details how right Marshal von Hindenburg's retreat was. What has happened near Arras would have happened on the entire front to far south of the Somme. There is no remedy against immense superiority, heavy artillery, and trench mortars. A retreat in order to give the war, if possible, the form of field warfare was the only way, nullifying the enemy's material superiority of mechanical means of war."

PASSPORTS FOR INDIA.

IMPORTANT REGULATION ISSUED.

London, Saturday Night.

The India Office issued the following communication to-night:—

It is hereby notified that no person over fifteen years of age will be permitted to land in India unless in possession of a valid passport issued or vised by a competent British authority.

British subjects embarking for India from the United Kingdom must carry valid passports issued or vised by the Passport Office, Downing Street, London.

Alien subjects so embarking must carry passports issued by their own authorities and vised by the Passport Office.

Persons embarking from foreign countries for India must first have their passports vised by a British Consular officer in the country of embarkation.

The foregoing does not apply to members of British naval or military forces or to crews of overseas vessels.

ADMIRALTY PROMOTIONS.

The Secretary of the Admiralty announces that Vice-Admiral Charles E. Anson, M.V.O., has been placed on the retired list from April 13 at his own request, in order to facilitate the promotion of junior officers.

The following consequent promotions have been made from the same date:—

Rear-Admiral Arthur H. Christian, C.B., M.V.O., to be Vice-Admiral.

Captain (Commodore First Class) Cecil F. Lambert, R.N., to be Rear-Admiral.

FROM BATTLE OF ARRAS.

WOUNDED GLASGOW LAD'S EXPERIENCES.

DUEL WITH BAVARIAN OFFICER.

(Exclusive to "Post Sunday Special.")

London, Saturday Night.

The cheeriest arrival from Arras in London to-day is a sixteen-year-old Scottish youth who took part in the great battle on Easter Monday morning.

His name is Private G. Laidlaw, and he is a native of Glasgow.

An irrepressible-looking lad, thickly set, and with a pair of striking brown eyes, he presents the appearance of a veteran warrior, though he has only been in France for a few months. Private Laidlaw worked as a messenger boy in a West End office before joining the colours, and when he appeared at Whitehall last July he was accepted by the recruiting authorities without hesitation. To-day he speaks with a thrill and not a little pride of how he figured in one of the most titanic battles of the war.

The Terrible Bombardment.

"How did you like it?" Private Laidlaw was asked.

"Man," was the retort in the broadest Scotch, "it was simply fine. That's the only word for it. I was longing to have a go at the Huns, and it was the proudest moment of my life when the word came to go over the top. I hadn't the slightest anxiety for my safety. All fear seemed to leave me, and I felt just like a young lion. All about me the lads were in great spirits, full of confidence, and determined to give the Germans a merciless hiding.

"Some hours before the advance the bombardment was of a frightful character. So terrible was it that I thought my heart would burst out of sheer excitement and amazement. Then, as the moment for the advance drew near, there was a silence—such a fearful silence. Great things were about to happen. That was how all of us felt.

"The signal came, and then over the top, out in to the open, our lads went. A bullet grazed my shoulder, but caught one of my pals and he dropped. He uttered a cry, but I couldn't turn back. I wanted to be one of the first into the German lines. The next moment I was sprawling on the ground, with machine gun bullets spitting all about me. I fell into a hole and hurt my ankle. I was up again in a few moments and joined the others. They had to face a terrific fire, for the Germans made fierce use of their concealed machine guns.

Capturing Germans.

"My first glimpse of a German warmed my heart. I ran for him like a mad bull. Then I saw others, and, to my astonishment, they put up their hands, having thrown away their rifles. I passed this batch in search of a Hun who would put up a fight. I was disappointed. The beggars wouldn't oblige me. At last I noticed an officer, a big ugly-looking Bavarian, approaching me. He fired three shots from his revolver, but I dodged each. 'Leave him to me,' shouted one of my chums, and a bayonet put an end to the Hun.

"I couldn't help laughing when I saw the Germans surrendering like little lambs. The heart was knocked out of them, and the only ones who fought at all were those in the rear, because they were out of reach of our men. I took charge of half a dozen of them, and on the way back to our lines a stray bullet caught me in the left leg. I got a nasty wee wound, but two of the Germans gave me a hand, and we walked back together as if we were the best of friends instead of bitter foes.

Germans Have Lost All Hope.

"Our prisoners talked freely of what they suffered during the bombardment, and I gathered that the British guns wiped out positions which were thought capable of resisting any gun. The German losses were tremendous, and, according to one of the captured, they disappeared as if cut down by a scythe. Whether they meant it or not, the Germans admitted that they were well beaten at every point. In fact, one remarked straight out that they were done for, and hadn't an earthly chance of stopping our advance."

LATEST WIRES.

A Budapest telegram says the King—that is, the Emperor Karl—and Queen Zita have arrived there.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon was yesterday elected Chancellor of Aberdeen University in succession to the late Lord Elgin.

German newspapers announce that Prince Schaumburg Lippe, a brother-in-law of the Kaiser, has been wounded in the upper lip by a shell splinter.

The U.S. Government has decided to employ the crews of German merchantmen detained in American ports on farming and other work not of a warlike nature.

At Newcastle Corn Market, yesterday, English wheat was one shilling easier, at 89s, and G.R. flour was a shilling dearer, at 62s. Oats were two shillings dearer, to 72s.

A fire took place at Woolwich Arsenal, yesterday. It is officially announced that there was no loss of life, and that, apart from slight damage to a building, there was no material loss.

The Press Association is officially informed that the railway companies charges for cartage of traffic conveyed by goods and passenger trains have been revised. The new scale comes into operation on Monday next.

Reuter's Agency learns that, according to authentic British information from Madrid, the political crisis seems to be over for the moment, and the situation is much more quiet. At present nothing is known of a reconstruction of the Cabinet.

BREADSTUFFS SHORTAGE.

MR KENNEDY JONES SAYS POSITION IS GRAVE.

PUTTING AN END TO BREAD PROFITEERING.

London, Saturday Night.

Addressing his constituents at Hornsey to-night Mr Kennedy Jones, Director-General of Food Economy, referring to the question of food supplies, said:—

I tell you frankly that in the matter of breadstuffs to-day we are faced with a situation which is undoubtedly grave. It is not the case that we are within measurable distance of starvation. That is not true.

Of course the stocks are lower to-day than they were two months ago, and if I were to come here in a month's time and tell you that the stocks were lower than they are to-day there would be no occasion for alarm unless I also told you that they were so low and the submarine menace was so grave that there was no possibility of our holding out till the new harvest.

Now the actual situation to-day is this:—Our stocks of foodstuffs are low. The U boat is something more than a menace. It is an active and actual danger.

I am convinced that if the voluntary ration, as laid down by Lord Devonport, is carried through with sincerity by the people of this country and with a single eye to helping to tide over the critical months between now and the next harvest, there need be no crying for bread. No one, in fact, need feel even the pinch of shortage of food. I am by no means certain that we shall not soon be able to put an end to bread profiteering.

SOLDIERS WORKING ON THE LAND.

War Office Extends Furlough.

London, Saturday Night.

The Food Production Department announces that, as the result of negotiations between the President of the Board of Agriculture and the War Office, the military authorities have agreed, owing to the inclemency of the weather and consequent delay in ploughing operations, to grant the following extensions of furlough to soldiers now engaged on agricultural work:—

(a) Men from the home forces, including ploughmen released from all units in the United Kingdom, with the exception of any category A men, will remain out till May 25.

(b) Category A men will remain out till May 10.

(c) All men on furlough from France will return on April 30 or on the date on which their furlough expires.

These arrangements do not apply to the men belonging to agricultural companies, who will remain available for farm work after the above dates.

COAL SCARCE IN LONDON.

Women Surround Loaded Lorry.

London, Saturday.

The shortage of coal is being keenly felt this week-end in London, and in some of the poorer parts of the Metropolis supplies are unobtainable. Long queues of women and children waited for several hours this morning outside shops in the eastern and south-eastern districts in the hope of securing fuel, but very few were successful in their quest, the limited supplies running out before less than half the number of applicants could be served.

The announcement of "No coal to-day" was exhibited outside several premises. In King's Cross Road a well-laden trolley was surrounded by a number of women, whose defiant attitude induced the driver to capitulate to their demands, and he disposed of his load forthwith.

RETRIEVER TO BLAME

For Carlingford Lough Disaster.

Belfast, Saturday.

Judgment was issued at Belfast to-day in the Board of Trade inquiry as to the Carlingford Lough disaster on November 3, when, as a result of a collision, the London and North-Western Railway Company's steamer Connemara and the Clanrye Steamship Company's steamer Retriever were lost, together with ninety-four lives.

The Court found that the collision was primarily due to the Retriever not complying with the regulations for preventing collisions at sea. On such a stormy night, with a heavy sea running, she should have avoided meeting another vessel in a narrow and dangerous channel.

The Court was, however, of opinion that the collision was caused by the Retriever not being able, on account of the severe weather conditions and strong ebb tide on her starboard bow, to comply with the regulations to avoid a collision, and recommended that rules should be made by the authorities to prevent a recurrence of such an accident.

The Court recorded its strong disapprobation of the way in which the coast watching duties were carried out.

BOLIVIA BREAKS WITH GERMANY.

La Paz, Bolivia, Saturday.

Bolivia has handed the German Minister his passports, together with a Note declaring that diplomatic relations are severed.

[Bolivia is a Republic to the west of Brazil.]

THE MASTERY OF THE AIR

HOW OUR AVIATORS CAN WIN PERMANENT SUPERIORITY.

By C. E. GREY, Editor of The Aeroplane.

(EXCLUSIVE TO "THE POST SUNDAY SPECIAL.")

So much has been said and written about air supremacy in the last few weeks that it seems well to set forth as clearly as may be what air supremacy means, and to discuss what has been done to obtain the command of the air by the British Empire.

In actual warfare absolute supremacy in the air is practically impossible. One side or other may obtain superiority in the air, or may even obtain such mastery in the air that no enemy aviator will venture to fly over territory held by that side.

But absolute supremacy would mean that no enemy aviator would dare to fly at all, even over his own territory; and if one side obtained such supremacy as all that it would mean that the war would be over, simply because, if no enemy aviator dared to fly, none of his soldiers would dare to fight.

The flying service of an army is composed of men picked for their courage and determination, and if uch picked men refused to fly one would be safe in betting that the rest of the army was beaten also. Therefore, so long as an army is willing to go on fighting it is fairly certain that its flying service will go on flying, even if only to attack the enemy's air scouts who pervade their country, even though they may not themselves venture over that enemy's side of the fighting line.

Supremacy in the air, or command of the air, in time of peace is another matter, for it does seem possible to build up an air fleet which will hold command of the air in just the same way that the British Navy held, and still holds, the command of the sea. As General Brancker, the Deputy Director-General of Military Aeronautics, put it in a brief but important speech recently, it is possible for us in this country to build up such a fleet of aircraft that no other country would dare to attack us.

What Can Be Done by Big Aerial Fleets.

Remember, this country is no longer an island. The West of Scotland knows nothing and the East of Scotland knows little enough of what aerial invasion means. Even eastern English towns, which have been raided by Zeppelins over and over again, have only an elementary idea of what continuous raids by really big air fleets would mean.

Certain industrial centres in Western Germany, which have had tons of high explosives poured into them day after day by French and British raiding aeroplanes, who have continually worked together to destroy the mines and blast furnaces in Alsace, whence the Germans extract most of their iron and coal, have a fair notion of what a big aerial bombardment feels like, but even their discomfort is small compared with what can be done when big fleets of bomb-dropping aeroplanes, specially built for the job, get to work in earnest.

A constant stream of aeroplanes of high speed and high lifting power would soon convert a prosperous city or populous big factory district into the likeness of one of those wretched towns in France which, having been held alternately by both sides, have been impartially shelled by the artillery of both.

It is to avoid such a fate at the hands of some jealous enemy of the future that we must hold supremacy in the air.

Doubtless when this war is over we shall be told that there will never be another war in our lifetime, and that posterity does not matter and can look after itself. The people who will tell us so will be the very people who three years ago were equally certain that war with Germany was impossible then. And if our supremacy of the air is going to cost us twenty million pounds per annum or more, I say that, purely as an insurance premium, it will be remarkably cheap at the price. So that's that.

Now, as to what has happened in the past, and what is happening to-day.

In the first place, aircraft of all sorts were shamefully neglected by those in high places before the war. The political authorities practically ignored them, the civilian population took no interest in them, and the older naval and military people frankly regarded them as freaks which only existed because of a lot of crazy acrobats or adventurers. Thus the outbreak of war found us with excellently organised flying services, but not enough of them to do the work of a single army corps according to modern ideas.

Undoubtedly at the beginning of the war the Germans were our betters in everything except one thing, namely, personal ability. Our simple skill, dash, and brain of our pilots utterly defeated the Germans, despite their superior numbers, organisation, aeroplanes, and especially their superior engines.

When the Germans Had the Upper Hand.

It was not, however, till well on in 1915 that air fighting became of prime importance. By then trench warfare had become a species of national industry, and our aeroplanes worried the Germans by going over their lines photographing their trenches for the benefit of our artillery; by flying far over the territory held by the Germans, and noting in which direction troops were moving in quantities, and so enabling our armies to meet the attack; by bombing railway junctions and ammunition dumps, and so preventing supplies from reaching the firing line; and by various other methods making themselves thoroughly obnoxious.

Therefore the Germans put into the air the Fokker monoplane, which for a period mainly deprived us of our superiority in the air. The Fokker was badly and cheaply made, but it was light, and it had a very good engine. Also, as it only operated on its own side of the lines, it had only to carry a light load of petrol, for about two hours' flying, whereas our people had to carry enough for three and a half or four hours. Frequently the Fokker carried a pilot alone without a passenger.

Anyhow, the result was that the Fokker easily reached any height between 10,000 and 12,000 feet, and there they used to sit waiting to dive upon our heavily loaded reconnaissance machines, which when starting out with all their petrol on board could only reach 7000 or 8000 feet.

By the end of 1915 the Germans undoubtedly had the upper hand in the air, at any rate on their own side of the lines, and it was only the excellent organisation of the R.F.C. in France by General Trenchard which made it possible for army reconnaissance to be done. The General organised the machines at his disposal so that they went out in groups of five or six at a time, and the attacking German then found himself in the middle of a group of hostile machines, instead of having a single victim at his mercy.

At home General Brancker also reorganised the system of training, and increased the personnel of the R.F.C. enormously at the same time. Also new types of fighting machines began to come through, designed by the leading British aeroplane constructors. De Havillands, Martinsydes, Sopwiths, and Vickers fighters displayed their superiority to the German Fokker, and the pendulum began to swing back again.

What Was Accomplished on the Somme.

By the time things were ready for the Big Push on the Somme in 1916 the German aviators had been practically driven out of the air on the British side of the lines, and so great was our mastery that even so far behind the German lines as their kite balloons could work, our aeroplanes held command, and the German kite balloons and aeroplanes alike were driven down, and when the Somme Push began the German artillery was firing blindly into the British attack. That is why our losses were so much less than they might have been.

Then the bad weather came, and the big push ceased until the Germans began their withdrawal from the Somme area early this year, in the hopes of delaying the new British attack by drawing our armies away from their bases.

In the meantime the Germans had made good use of the winter rest. They had produced a number of small, fast fighting machines of various makes, chiefly the Albatros, Halberstadt, Rumpler, Ago, and Roland, all biplanes on very British lines, and the famous, or infamous, Fokker monoplane of a year before had been transformed into a small, fast biplane of extreme virulence.

These machines, which began to appear about October of 1916, were in the air in great numbers by February and March of this year, and did considerable damage. Their great speed and climbing power gave them an advantage of the slower types of British machines, much as the Fokker monoplane had the advantage a year earlier, only they dived from 15,000 feet on to our machines at 9000 and 10,000.

But their advantage was not as great as that of their forerunners. In the first place the R.F.C. was far better organised than ever before, and the personnel was better trained. And, secondly, our people possessed a certain number of aeroplanes which were superior to the Germans' best. The R.F.C. was aided also by certain squadrons of the Royal Naval Air Service, mounted on the very latest and most terrific of fighting machines.

The result was that, although the British casualties were heavy, they were not proportionately as heavy as they were a year earlier, and the German casualties were proportionately heavier.

The Cause of the Present Agitation.

The recent agitation has for its basis the fact that we have not yet won a permanent and definite superiority in the air, although, in the opinion of many people closely in touch with aerial affairs, it has been within our power to have won that superiority before now. The agitators reason that we have undisputably the finest fliers in the world, considered purely as fliers, and that we have the finest air fighters, given aeroplanes equal in quantity and quality to those of the enemy. None will dispute those facts, at anyrate.

Also we have undoubtedly the best aeroplanes in the world, so far as certain types are concerned, especially the fighting types. If, then, we have not obtained the mastery over the Hun in the air it seems reasonable to suppose that those who were concerned with the ordering of aeroplanes for the flying services in the past failed to order the best types, or else failed to order them in sufficient quantities.

There you have the whole of the present agitation in a nutshell. The big political agitation of the early months of 1916 was followed by a rapid improvement in the equipment of the Royal Flying Corps and in the state of home defence against Zeppelins on precisely the lines advocated by the agitators. The lines of improvement advocated by the agitation of to-day are equally rational and easy of fulfilment, therefore one may suppose that they are based on equally good grounds.

Supremacy in the air is the birthright of British aviators. So far as have been in the power of the men who fly they have won that supremacy. When they are mounted and equipped in a manner worthy of their personal skill and gallantry the command of the air now and hereafter will pass into the possession of the British Air Fleet.

PACIFISTS IN GLASGOW.

ATTEMPT TO RUSH A MEETING.

SEVERAL PEOPLE INJURED: TWO ARRESTS.

Ramsay Macdonald and Glasgow Hooligans.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

A somewhat serious affray took place this afternoon in connection with a meeting which Mr Ramsay MacDonald, the pacifist, was addressing in Charing Cross Hall. The meeting was of the nature of a conference held under the auspices of the National Council of Civil Liberties, with the object of protesting against industrial conscription.

About the hour fixed for the meeting to commence—3.30—a number of men associated with a patriotic organisation gathered in the vicinity of the hall and attempted to rush the door. As such proceedings were not unexpected the promoters of the meeting had a large number of stewards stationed in the corridors ready to deal with any organised opposition.

It is questionable, however, whether these would have been able to deal with the situation but for the timely arrival of about a score of constables, who, lining up in front of the door, soon succeeded in pressing the patriots back to the edge of the footpath.

In the scuffle several persons were injured, one man sustaining an ugly wound on the head; said to have been caused by a blow with a piece of metal piping. Two men were arrested in connection with the affair and taken to the Northern Police Office.

"Proper Protection."

The conference was attended by 320 delegates, who, it was stated, represented 160 organiations, such as Trade Councils, I.L.P. branches, and Co-Operative Societies, with an aggregate of about 250,000 members.

Councillor Shinwell, who presided, declared that he had proceeded, step by step, in the direction of a servile state. He had no faith in such safeguards as had been proposed, the most effective safeguard, in his opinion, being the right to strike. Referring to the attempt to break up the meeting, he said that in the absence of the proper protection to which they were entitled they would have to meet such conduct by other methods.

Mr Ramsay Macdonald, speaking in support of a resolution protesting against the proposed industrial conscription, explained at the outset that he was feeling far from well, and that indeed he would have excused himself but for the rumours that something was going to happen at that meeting.

Proceeding with his speech, he referred to the pledges which had been given to the trade unions in connection with conscription, and said that a pledge was regarded with suspicion in the House of Commons, where the Minister who made a pledge was certain to have something up his sleeve. (Laughter.)

Glasgow Hooligans.

A reference to the hooligans of Glasgow, who imagined that patriotism required the smashing of windows and the parading through the streets, was followed by the remark that free speech, independence of thought, and manliness in politics were good—for Petrograd. (Laughter.)

If by the work of a few men they could settle the war in a way that would secure the democracies of Europe for ever, it was by honest, bold, democratic thinking; and if some of them could help to attain that end, it would be the fittest bit of National Service that any handful of non-combatant men could do. (Applause.) That was his conception of National Service.

Nothing to What the Suffragettes Could Do.

In the evening Mr Ramsay Macdonald was the guest of the Glasgow Federation of the Independent Labour Party, an organisation which, Councillor Dollan reported, comprised twenty-one branches, with a membership of about 1650. He referred to the strenuous winter's work which he had done, remarking that the little disturbances here and there were as nothing compared to what the Suffragettes used to do in the palmy days of the Liberal Party.

HELENSBURGH SOLDIER'S HONOUR.

Private John M'Hardy, who resides at 42 East Princes Street, Helensburgh, has been awarded the Military Medal. The gallant soldier, who is just twenty years of age, is in the A. and S.H. Two other brothers are also serving.

PEACE NEAR AT HAND.

COL. GREIG'S IMPRESSION OF NEW BATTLES.

AN END TO REIGN OF SAVAGERY.

Paisley, Saturday.

This afternoon the annual meeting of the West Renfrewshire Liberal Association was held in the Liberal Club Hall, Paisley. Mr Joseph Johnstone, Lochwinnoch, chairman of the Association, presided.

The Chairman, in calling attention to Colonel Greig's military services as colonel of the London Scottish, said that since the war commenced he had passed 8000 men to the ranks through the London Scottish and other battalions.

Colonel Greig said it was the duty of all parties to support the Government of the day. There was but one duty before the nation—to put an end to the reign of savagery and barbarism which is being carried on by Germany. They have got to put an end to the mad dog of Europe. (Applause.)

In certain quarters there was a tendency to differentiate between the German Government and the German people. He recognised no such distinction. The German people were only getting the kind of Government they were entitled to. This country had one idea of wiping out the German nation, but the German people would require to be a different people than they were at present before we could enter into any arrangements for peace terms with them. (Applause.)

He rejoiced that America had come into the war, and judging from a visit he had lately made to the Somme and Ypres there were many indications that victory was at hand and peace in the near future. (Applause.)

END OF HELENSBURGH'S "POTATO" FAME.

Helensburgh, Saturday.

From far and near the pilgrimage to Helensburgh for potatoes resulted in an exceptionally busy week, the great majority of the "pilgrims" coming from Greenock. The total weight of tubers distributed is a matter for conjecture, but during the past fortnight it is estimated that over 100 tons were sold.

All day on Friday large crowds came over from Greenock, keeping Mr Brown and his assistants busy, but it was intimated that after to-day no more sales would take place. The early steamers from Greenock were heavily laden this forenoon, and to each customer Mr Brown supplied one stone.

In wintry weather conditions over five hundred people were lined up outside Mr Brown's premises between nine and ten o'clock alone.

PROMINENT SCOTTISH CRICKETER KILLED.

Kilmarnock, Saturday.

West of Scotland cricket, and the Kilmarnock Club in particular, has lost one of its finest players by the death in action of Lieutenant W. P. Jamieson, Motor Machine Gun Corps. From information received it appears that he had gone along with an orderly on a mission to the front line trenches after dark, and in the darkness had apparently strayed into "No Man's Land," with the result that they had been seen by the enemy, who opened on them with a machine gun. Lieutenant Jamieson was killed instantaneously, and the orderly had a miraculous escape.

INVERNESS OFFICER WOUNDED A THIRD TIME.

Inverness, Saturday Night.

To-day ex-Dean of Guild MacLean received information that his son, Lieut. Norman MacLean, Canadians, has been wounded. This is the third time that Lieut. MacLean has been wounded. One one occasion his life was saved by a steel helmet, which was pierced by shrapnel.

He joined the Canadians as a private, and was promoted for conspicuous gallantry. He is one of five brothers who joined the colours. One, Lance-Corporal William MacLean, died of wounds, and another has been missing since the battle of Loos. Another brother is an officer in the Flying Corps, and the other in the Cameron Highlanders.

RENFREWSHIRE POLICE AND THE ARMY.

Paisley, Saturday.

At a meeting of the Renfrewshire Military Tribunal at Paisley, Sheriff P. J. Blair presiding, the question of exemptions as regards the Renfrewshire Police Force came under consideration.

It was stated that since March, 1916, there had been 48 exemptions granted to members of the county force who were under 31 years of age.

Captain Harding, Chief Constable for Renfrew and Bute, said that since the exemptions had been issued ten of the men exempted had joined the army.

The Tribunal withdrew the ten certificates and also that of one man who was under 23 years of age.

20,000 MINERS WANTED FOR THE ARMY.

Dunfermline, Saturday.

The Controller of Mines wants 20,000 miners for the army before 9th May.

At the meeting of the Executive Board of the Fife and Kinross Miners' Association this afternoon a letter was read from Mr Ashton asking the attendance of delegates at a meeting of the British Miners' Federation, to be held in London on Thursday, for the purpose of considering this matter. Delegates were accordingly appointed to attend the conference.

ESCAPED FROM GERMANY

AFTER FOUR UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS.

PLUCKY GORDON'S AMAZING ADVENTURES.

How The Huns Were At Last Outwitted.

(Exclusive to "The Post Sunday Special.")

Alyth, Saturday Night.

Private James Macdonald, Gordon Highlanders, has just arrived at his home in Alyth, after making his escape from Germany, where he was confined as a prisoner for two and a half years.

Private Macdonald was a reservist when war broke out, and was among the first to be called up to rejoin his regiment. He took part in the Battle of Mons, but was captured during the historic retreat that followed, and conveyed to Sennelager, in Germany. From the first Private Macdonald was imbued with the idea of escaping, but it was only after making the attempt four times that he was successful.

A bold move to get away from his captors on the battlefield having failed, Private Macdonald was taken from Mons to Sennelager.

During my first five months in this prison camp, he told a "Post Sunday Special" representative, we were simply starved, so much so that it was no uncommon thing to see men drop down because of the lack of food and the cold and exposure to which they were subjected. Latterly I was sent away to a farm to work, and we were very decently treated by the farmer. Sentries kept guard, and the area in which we worked was enclosed by wire fencing.

Foiled By Sportsmen.

One night John Cameron (an Aberdeen lad) and I planned to escape. We waited till the sentry was out of sight, and, cutting the barbed wire, we crawled through into a field. The night was very dark, and we walked on until the day dawned, when we hid in a wood until darknoss again fell. Fortunately we had taken with us a supply of biscuits and chocolate, saved from the parcels we had received from home.

On the fifth day after our escape we were lying in a wood. It was the afternoon, and all at once we were startled by the sound of a rifle shot. After a lapse of five minutes we could hear men trampling in the wood, and we naturally imagined that they were soldiers. More shots were fired, and, to our surprise, we soon learned that the men were not soldiers, but sportsmen in pursuit of game.

Meantime the beaters were approaching us, and we could see men with rifles stationed all round the wood. We approached the edge of the wood, intending to get out, but on emerging we were confronted by three sportsmen, who at once gave the alarm, and ordered us to halt. Cameron and I, however, ran back into the wood, but it was of no use, as we were quickly found out and overpowered.

A Bitter Disappointment.

Back again in Sennelager (Private Macdonald continued), I was sentenced to twenty-one days' confinement in a cell, and fed on bread and water, and after that to fourteen days' detention. At the end of another six months I was again sent to a farm to work. This time five of us made the attempt to escape. We succeeded in the darkness in eluding the sentries, and for eight nights we went across country, sleeping in the woods in the daytime. The weather was very cold, and we suffered severe privations on our way.

During our travels we crossed two canal bridges which were unguarded, and after covering 115 miles we at last came near to the frontier. Our hopes were high as we made for a bridge crossing a river in front of us. This bridge was, as we thought, unguarded, but just as we reached the other side we were challenged in the dark by a couple of sentries, and were again taken prisoners This was a bitter disappointment.

Private Macdonald was now sent to a camp at Minden, where the prisoners were starved. Three of us, he said, refused to work, because of the ill-treatment we received, and by way of punishment we were confined in a cell, where we had to stand facing the wall for three days and three nights. The only respite we had was at meal times. One poor fellow's legs gave way, and he fell to the ground from sheer exhaustion.

Success at Last.

After this the plucky, never-say-die Gordon was sent to work in a coal mine, and he now planned, with a companion named Robert Shand, from Aberdeen, to escape on their way to the pit in the morning.

Having succeeded in eluding the guards, they got into a wood by the side of the road. Passing through the wood, they came to a barricade, on the other side of which we could hear miners going to their work.

Shand and I here parted, and I never saw him again, said Macdonald. I waited for a chance, and jumped the barricade, crossed the road, and ran on until I came to a wood, where I hid. Towards night I made a beeline for the north. I came to a river, where I had the good fortune to find a small boat, in which I rowed myself across.

The country I now traversed was rough and rugged, but on the fourth night I came within four miles of the frontier. I crept cautiously forward, and saw in the moonlight two German sentries guarding the frontier. Waiting till they were out of sight I again moved forward. This was about four o'clock in the morning, and I knew by the distance I had put between myself and the sentries that I was now in Holland—and free!

On reaching his home in Alyth one of Private Macdonald's greatest pleasures was to see, for the first time, his little son, who was born during his exile, and who had been christened Gordon Kitchener Macdonald.

TURKS ILL-TREAT PRISONERS.

DISQUIETING NEWS OF LANARKSHIRE MEN.

PARCELS FROM HOME REFUSED THEM.

Airdrie, Saturday Night.

Bailie Chapman, of Commonhead, has to-day received somewhat disquieting news from his son, Company Sergeant-Major Alec Chapman, of the Lowland Engineers, who, along with about a dozen others, were captured by the Turks in Egypt about a year ago.

They have since been kept as prisoners of war at different places in Turkey, and the sergeant-major indicates that, whereas they had previously been fairly well treated, they were now being less well cared for.

He and others have only received a few of the parcels that have been sent them from friends at home, and there is reason to believe that the Turks are using many of them for themselves.

It also appears they are being shifted about from one place to another, and are not at the places to which the parcels and remittances are addressed when they are due to arrive.

Several of the engineers belonging to Airdrie and Coatbridge have died in hospital within the last few weeks from disease and wounds.

FORFARSHIRE PANEL DOCTORS' EARNINGS.

An Average of £200 Per Annum.

Forfar, Saturday Night.

Doctors' earnings under the Insurance Act formed the subject of inquiry at a meeting of Forfarshire Insurance Committee held in Forfar to-day.

A financial report, submitted by Mr Thos. Hannick, the clerk, set forth that the total expenditure during the past year amounted to £14,428, of which £10,949 was in respect of medical benefit. In reply to a question by Mr John Young, the clerk stated that, on an average, the doctors on the panel would receive £200 per annum, and, answering a further inquiry by Provost Thomson, Montrose, he added that the highest-paid doctor of the county panel received about £600 per annum for his services under the Insurance Act.

Mr John F. Kidd asked for a remit to the Sanatorium Benefit Committee to consider the question of the appointment of committees to look after patients discharged from the sanatorium with the disease arrested or to some extent cured. From time to time they had cases of such persons being readmitted to the sanatorium, and that went to show that the treatment of tuberculosis was bound up with housing conditions. Coupled with that was the question of domiciliary treatment, for which the doctors received extra payment. When they had persons recommended for sanatorium treatment, but not admitted, they should see that these patients received proper care from their panel doctor, and such committees would see that this was done. The matter was remitted to the Sanatorium Benefit Committee for a report.

MASONIC ENTERTAINMENT TO WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

Port-Glasgow, Saturday.

A large contingent of wounded soldiers were the guests this afternoon of the Masonic brethren of Lodge Doric Kilwinning. A substantial dinner was served in the hall in Brown Street, the arrangements being carried through by a ladies' committee, headed by Mrs Paul Williams.

Right Worshipful Master Andrews presided at a concert which was held later.

MINERS' ENFORCED IDLENESS.

Dalkeith, Saturday.

Miners' representatives from twenty districts of Midlothian and Haddingtonshire met in conference in Dalkeith to-day.

Delegates reported disappointing results concerning work at various collieries, several thousand men having had to suffer enforced idleness for one or more days on different occasions during the last five weeks owing to the congestion of output at the collieries. This was due to shipping restrictions, as well as the absence of empty waggons, and was in marked contrast to the unusually large output during February.

BODY FOUND IN RIVER LEVEN.

Dumbarton, Saturday Night.

While Mr Alexander Campbell was fishing in the River Loven near Dumbarton Slaughter House this afternoon he observed the body of a man in the water. He communicated with the Burgh Police, who had the remains taken from the river.

At the mortuary the body was identified as that of Thomas Drake, belonging to Clydebank, who, when last seen, was an inmate of Dumbarton Combination Poorhouse.

It is not known how the man got into the water.

BANNOCKBURN'S NEW STATIONMASTER.

Falkirk, Saturday.

Mr David C. Hendry, who for the past eighteen years has been a member of the office staff at the Caledonian Railway goods department, Grahamston, Falkirk, has been appointed stationmaster at Bannockburn, and enters upon his new duties on Monday. Mr Hendry entered the railway service at Brechin as a boy, and previous to coming to Falkirk was stationed at Aberdeen.

NEARLY FOUR YEARS IN MILITARY PRISON.

GORDON'S AMAZING RECORD

Aberdeen, Saturday.

The story of a Gordon Highlander's downfall was unfolded at Aberdeen to-day, when Alexander Stewart, a private in the 3d Battalion, and wearing several ribbons on his breast, admitted before Sheriff Young having committed two acts of fraud.

On or about the 10th February, it appears, he went to Westerton House, Pitfodels, and there pretended to Professor Sandford Terry that his name was James Grant, and that he was stationed at King Street Barracks. He stated that a number of fresh recruits from Glasgow had arrived at the barracks. They were a very bad lot, he said, and had stolen his regimental kit. By his story he induced Professor Terry to give him the loan of 14s, which he appropriated to his own use.

His second offence was of having obtained 5s from a city soldier by pretending that his name was Alex. White, and that he had been at the front, had been wounded, and had earned distinction while there. He represented that his regimental shirt had been stolen from his kit, and he thus induced the soldier to give him the money.

Stewart had been seven times previously convicted at Dundee for theft and housebreaking.

The Fiscal told how accused was granted the usual privilege in view of his being sent to the front, but he purposely absented himself when the draft was due, and he turned up some time afterwards. He was described as a thorough bad lot, and was stated to be making a practice of such frauds.

An Amazing Record.

Lieut. Pyper, of the Gordons, said that during the thirteen weeks he had been with the Gordons his record was fair, but previous to joining he was four years with the Black Watch. In that period he was only three weeks on duty, and the remainder of the time in prison under military discipline. Lieut. Pyper added that he was being sent out with the very first draft.

Stewart, who was sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment with hard labour, told the Sheriff that it had all been through drink, and that if his Lordship would give him a chance he would reform and would go back to the front with the next draft.

DUNDEE LABOURER'S MYSTERIOUS DEATH.

Alleged to Have Taken Methylated Spirits.

Dundee, Saturday.

A Dundee labourer named Andrew Brady (40), 35 Commercial Street, has died mysteriously, death, it is alleged, having been caused through excessive drinking of methylated spirits.

Brady was observed in the centre of the city on Thursday in a bad state of intoxication, and he was arrested. His condition was so serious that it was deemed advisable to remove him to the Infirmary, and after treatment he improved considerably, and he was afterwards conveyed to prison. On Friday he was too ill to appear before the Magistrate at the Police Court on a charge of drunkenness, and he died late last night.

DEATH OF FORMER H.M. INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS.

Montrose, Saturday.

A prominent Scottish educationist passed away at Montrose to-day in the person of Mr Robert James Muir, formerly H.M. Inspector of Schools.

The deceased gentleman, who was born in Dumfries over seventy years ago, was educated in Dumfries Academy and at Edinburgh and Oxford Universities, where he had a distinguished career. In 1873 he was appointed one of H.M. Inspectors, and for two years he carried out inspectorate work in Glasgow under Dr Martin.

In 1875 he was appointed Inspector for North Forfarshire, Kincardineshire, and Shetland, carrying out the duties of the first-named centre for the long period of thirty-seven years, until he retired under the age limit in 1912. He was well known as an author and humorist, and is survived by his widow.

FORTY-SEVEN YEARS IN PHŒNIX IRONWORKS.

Coatbridge, Saturday.

This afternoon the grave closed over the remains of the late Mr James Gibson, Inderleigh, Muiryhall Street, Coatbridge, and the cortege included a large number of leading ironmasters in the West of Scotland. Deceased, who died in a Glasgow nursing home, underwent an operation at the beginning of the week. In iron circles he was a prominent figure, and was recognised as a keen and successful business man. He began as a clerk in the Phœnix Iron Works, Coatbridge, forty-seven years ago, with the firm of John Spencer, Ltd., and gradually worked himself into a position of prominence—that of financial manager—and he was latterly a director of the company.

BLAIRGOWRIE TOWN CLERK DEAD.

Mr J. Sidey Nelson.

Blairgowrie, Saturday Night.

The death took place to-day of Mr J. Sidey Nelson, Town Clerk, Blairgowrie, after a short illness. The late Mr Nelson was a son of the manse, his father having been minister of Pitcairngreen. For many years he carried on business as a solicitor in Blairgowrie, and a few years ago was appointed Town Clerk. He was well known and highly respected in the town and district.

Mr George Gardyne Milne has been appointed convener, and Chief Constable Marr and Mr James Lindsay joint secretary and treasurer of the free-will offering which has been organised for Montrose and district.

PERTHSHIRE WAR WORKERS.

CENTRAL ORGANISATION FORMED.

Perth, Saturday Night.

This afternoon a large and representative gathering of ladies and gentlemen connected with war work parties and groups of war workers in the county and city of Perth assembled in the Council Chambers, Perth. The meeting was called by an invitation issued by His Grace the Duke of Atholl, Lord Lieutenant of the County; and Lord Provost Scott, to consider a proposal to form a Central Association for Perth City and County through which war work parties would have an opportunity of affiliating with the scheme of the Director-General of Voluntary Organisations, Sir Edward Ward.

The Duke of Atholl, who presided, said he had experience of the difficulties and delays of getting articles to the troops, and that would be avoided by contributing to a pool at the Base, from which each commanding officer could draw whatever he wished immediately.

Mr John Duthie, Assistant Director-General of Voluntary Organisations, mentioned that there were 246 county and burgh associations attached to the Voluntary Organisations Department. Since the Department came into existence 9,436,000 articles had been sent from the various depots.

Lord Provost Scott moved that an association be formed for the county and city of Perth, to be known as the Voluntary Workers' Association, as proposed by the notice calling the meeting.

Colonel Whitaker, Callander, seconded, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

The Duchess of Atholl was appointed president, and Mrs Albert Pullar, Dunn, vice-president.

MOTHERWELL'S AIR HERO.

Perhaps no honour that has come to Motherwell—and they are now numerous and varied—has given as much satisfaction as the conferring of the Military Cross on Lieutenant William Baillie, of the Royal Flying Corps, for intrepid gallantry in an aerial fight in France.

The coveted honour was awarded on the field for a specially daring piece of work, in which the young hero, fighting against great odds, successfully accounted for the enemy. Although dangerously wounded he pluckily brought his machine and observer safely into the British lines.

In Egypt Lieutenant Baillie also distinguished himself in aerial fighting, and was mentioned in despatches six months ago.

A keen sportsman, and the only son of a keen sportsman, Lieutenant Baillie was at Fir Park three weeks ago witnessing the game between Motherwell and Third Lanark. He only rejoined his squadron a few days afterwards, and it was in a thrilling air fight on 4th April that Lieutenant Baillie won the Cross.

Lieutenant Baillie is the only son of Mr Daniel Baillie, Knopdale, Motherwell.

KIRRIEMUIR NURSE DROWNED

On Board Torpedoed Hospital Ship.

Kirriemuir, Saturday Night.

A War Office telegram has been received in Kirriemuir apprising her relatives that Nurse Agnes Mann, who, it appears, had been on the ill-fated hospital ship Salta, was missing and believed drowned.

For the past year the lady was a nurse in a military hospital in England, and previous to that was engaged in Bartholomew Hospital, Rochester. A brother, Lieutenant Mann, of the Black Watch, is at present home on furlough, and a younger brother is an officer in the mercantile marine.

MINERS' LEVY FOR MATES WHO WIN HONOURS.

Kilsyth, Saturday.

The Kilsyth and District Branches of the Miners' Union have decided to make a levy of sixpence per member per week for four weeks in order to provide a fund to honour the members of the Union who have won or may win military honours. It is expected that £240 will be raised in this way.

LEVEN FOOTBALLER KILLED.

Methil, Saturday Night.

News has reached Leven that Bombardier Michael Hughes, Fifeshire Battery, R.F.A., has died of wounds received in the recent big push.

In civil life he was employed at the National Steel Works, Kirkland, Leven, and was called up at mobilisation.

The bombardier was well known in football circles, having played for Montrave United F.C.

He was a native of Dundee.

INCORRIGIBLE BOY THIEF

SENT TO REFORMATORY FOR THREE YEARS.

Airdrie, Saturday.

A boy named Thomas Anderson, fifteen years and eleven months, described as a labourer, and residing with his parents at 28 Bell Street, Airdrie, was brought before Hon. Sheriff Motherwell to-day, on remit from the Burgh Court, charged with theft and three previous convictions. It was alleged that on Tuesday last he stole a tin box full of chocolate biscuits (value 12s 6d) from a shop door in Graham Street.

His last conviction was before Sheriff Lee a fortnight ago, when, on it being stated that the lad earned 28s a week, but had taken to housebreaking, he was fined £3. The case had been up on Wednesday, when a plea of guilty was tendered, but on the accused learning that it was proposed to send him to Paisley Kibble Reformatory till he was nineteen, he withdrew his plea of guilty.

Mr Bell, solicitor, to-day informed the Court that the boy had now agreed to plead guilty, but on behalf of his father he made an appeal to the Sheriff to give the lad one more chance, as he was to start work on Monday, and would try to pay the £3 fine, and keep out of future trouble.

The Fiscal mentioned that he had been leading his young brother into the same nefarious kind of career he had entered upon himself, having in this case got him to take the chocolate box from the shop and deliver it to him. He (accused) was afterwards found concealing it in a railway embankment, having devoured part of the contents.

The Sheriff said it was quite clear that the lad was getting hopelessly bad, and that unless he was put under restraint he would have no chance of turning out any better. He sentenced him to three years' detention in the Kibble Reformatory, Paisley.

FIFE MINERS' RECORD CONTRIBUTIONS.

Dunfermline, Saturday.

Although the ranks of the Fife miners have been seriously depleted by enlistments in His Majesty's forces the contributions of the Fife and Kinross Miners' Association for the year just ended have created a record, the contributions amounting to the huge sum of £20,535 during the year.

Funeral claims, amounting to £3166, were paid.

This large figure, it was stated at the meeting of the Executive Board of the Association to-day, being mainly due to the great number of miners who had made the supreme sacrifice in the war.

The total funds of the Association, it was reported, including a sum given by the Clackmannanshire district, now amalgamated with Fife and Kinross, amounted to £52,128.

The Association also had contributed a sum of £5650 to the National Union of Scottish Mine Workers.

STORM HAVOC IN NITHSDALE.

Serious Outlook For Sheep Farmers.

Sanquhar, Saturday Afternoon.

The hill lambing season has now commenced in Upper Nithsdale, and the prospects of a good crop is not good. The wintry weather continues, and this forenoon the Euchan hills and glens are in the worst condition they have been in in living memory.

At Euchanhead hirsle, one of the most important in the district, the ewes are in rather poor condition, and the crop of lambs, according to expert opinion, will not reach forty per cent. of former years.

At one hirsel in Scaur Water up to this morning not one lamb had been secured alive. Altogether the prospects are particularly bad, and farmers take a gloomy view of the situation.

FIRE IN PAISLEY PICTURE HOUSE

Caused by Smouldering Cigarette.

Paisley, Saturday.

Damage estimated at between three and four hundred pounds was caused by a fire which occurred in Paisley Picture Theatre early this morning.

The outbreak, which was due apparently to a cigarette or match having been left smouldering on the floor, began in the stalls, and before the Fire Brigade succeeded in extinguishing the flames thirty tip-up chairs, part of the floor and carpet had been burned and the ceiling and walls scorched.

PENSIONS MINISTER IN ABERDEEN.

Aberdeen, Saturday Night.

Mr Barnes, Pensions Minister, concluded a successful visit to Aberdeen to-day, when he left by the afternoon train for Dundee.

He stated to a press representative at the station that he was very satisfied with the meeting in Trinity Hall in the forenoon, because it was one of the best he had seen in Scotland, and was widely represented. He hoped the result would be to get a move on for the treatment and training of wounded soldiers in the North of Scotland. I was much impressed, he added, with the facilities at Tradeston Farm for the helpful training in agriculture, and hope that good use will be made of these facilities in the near future.

PASSING OF PERTH VETERAN.

Perth, Saturday Night.

Mr John Calderwood, late of the 42d Highlanders, and an Indian Mutiny veteran, passed away at his residence, 256 High Street, Perth, to-day.

Deceased was 80 years of age, and served in the Indian Mutiny and Ashantee campaign, for which he held medals and clasps.

EXCHEQUER BONDS.

PER ACTS 29 VICT., C. 25; 32 VICT., C. 6; AND 6 and 7 GEO. V., C. 24.

BEARING INTEREST FROM THE DATE OF PURCHASE AT

£5 PER CENT. PER ANNUM,

PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY ON THE 1st APRIL AND THE 1st OCTOBER.

REPAYABLE AT PAR ON THE 1st APRIL, 1922.

PRICE OF ISSUE FIXED BY H.M. TREASURY AT

£100 PER CENT.

THE GOVERNOR and COMPANY of the BANK OF ENGLAND are authorised by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to receive on the 13th April, 1917, and thereafter until further notice, Applications for Exchequer Bonds as above.

The Principal and Interest of the Bonds are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom.

The Bonds will be Repayable at Par on the 1st April, 1922, but a holder of Bonds of this issue on giving three calendar months' notice in the prescribed form, may require repayment of such Bonds at par on the 1st October, 1919.

The Bonds will be issued in denominations of £100, £200, £500, £1000, and £5000, and will bear interest at £5 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly by coupon, the first coupon on each Bond representing interest from the date upon which the proceeds of the payment for the Bond are available for the credit of H.M. Exchequer until the next succeeding day on which a half-yearly payment of interest is due.

Bonds of this issue and the interest payable from time to time in respect thereof will be exempt from all British taxation, present or future, if it is shown in the manner directed by the Treasury that they are in the beneficial ownership of a person who is neither domiciled nor ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Further, the interest payable from time to time in respect of Bonds of this issue will be exempt from British Income Tax, present or future, if it is shown in the manner directed by the Treasury that the Bonds are in the beneficial ownership of a person who is not ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland without regard to the question of domicile. Where a Bond belongs to a holder entitled to exemption under these provisions the relative coupons will be paid without deduction for Income Tax or other taxes if accompanied by a declaration of ownership in such form as may be required by the Treasury.

Bonds of this issue will be accepted at their nominal value, with due allowance for any unpaid interest thereon, by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue in satisfaction of amounts due on account of Death Duties or of Excess Profits Duty, and by the Ministry of Munitions in satisfaction of amounts due on account of Munitions Exchequer payments, provided, in the case of Death Duties, that such Bonds have formed part of the estate of the deceased continuously up to the date of death from the date of the original subscription, or for a period of not less than six months immediately preceding the date of death; and in the case of Excess Profits Duty or Munitions Exchequer payments that they have been held continuously by the firm, Company, or other person liable for such duty or payment since the date of the original subscription or for a period of not less than six months before such duty or payment becomes due and payable.

Applications for Bonds, which must in every case be accompanied by payment of the full amount payable in respect of the Bonds applied for, may be lodged by hand at the Bank of England Loans Office, 5 and 6 Lombard Street, E.C.2, on any business day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 12 noon), or they may be forwarded to the Bank through the post.

WHERE PAYMENT IS MADE OTHERWISE THAN IN CASH OR BY BANKER'S DRAFT ON THE BANK OF ENGLAND THE AMOUNT OF THE FIRST INTEREST PAYMENT IN RESPECT OF THE RELATIVE BONDS WILL BE CALCULATED AS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF THE PAYMENT ARE ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY THE BANK.

In all cases in which the Bank are asked to forward Bonds by post the Bonds will be despatched by registered post at the risk of the applicant, who must himself effect any insurance that may be desired.

Bonds of this issue may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland in either of the following forms, viz.:—

1. Registered 5 per cent. Exchequer Bonds, 1922, transferable in the Bank transfer books.

2. Registered 5 per cent. Exchequer Bonds, 1922, transferable by deed.

Applicants who intend to register their holdings forthwith should notify the fact on the form of application, in which case they will not be required to take delivery of the actual Bonds.

Holdings of Registered Bonds, which will be transferable in any sums which are multiples of £5, may be re-converted at any time in whole or in part (in multiples of £100) into Bonds to Bearer, with coupons attached, such re-conversion being effected by means of a transfer executed under the provisions ordinarily applying to the transfer of Government Stocks.

Dividends on Registered Bonds of this issue will be paid without deduction of Income Tax, but the income derived from such dividends will be assessable to Income Tax in the hands of the recipients at the rates of tax appropriate to their respective incomes. Dividend warrants will be transmitted by post. The warrant for the first dividend payable will be forwarded when due to the holder, or, in the case of a joint holding, to the first holder in whose name the Bonds are originally registered or to his nominee.

Applications must be made upon the printed forms, which may be obtained, together with copies of this Prospectus, at the Bank of England; at the Bank of Ireland; of Messrs Mullens, Marshall, & Co., 13 George Street, Mansion House, E.C.2; and at any Bank, Money Order Office, or Stock Exchange in the United Kingdom.

Bank of England,
London, 12th April, 1917.

NEW LIGHT ON THE FATE OF RASPUTIN

TRAITORS IN HIGH PLACES IN RUSSIA.

Dramatic Scenes at Rasputin's Last Banquet.

BY ANNA PAULOPETROFF, Formerly of the Royal Opera House, Petrograd.

I CAN still remember most vividly the change which came over Russia when the summons to arms came and we found ourselves engaged in a war with our powerful neighbours, Germany and Austria. In those early days of the war all that was best in all classes of the community came out, and it seemed that at last Russia had become a united people, peasants and princes standing side by side in the defence of Holy Russia.

The people seemed for a time even to forget that at Court the most powerful party was composed of men and women who were either of German descent or were allied by the most powerful ties with the representatives of German influence.

The Czarina herself, who in twenty years had never shown herself sympathetic with any movement that was purely Russian in character, and remained at the end of that time the aloof German Princess who first came to Petrograd and froze our Russian warmth with the stiffness of her Teutonic formality, made no secret from the first of her intense dislike of the war. Her affection for her brother, the Grand Duke of Hesse, which she had shown in such a marked fashion at the time of the dispute between him and the Grand Duke Cyril, was not lessened in any respect by the fact that he had now become an enemy of her country. It was known that she was in constant communication with him and with her sister, the Princess Irene of Prussia.

THE CZARINA'S UNPATRIOTIC ATTITUDE.

The return of Rasputin to Petrograd after his illness demanded the closest watchfulness on my part, as on that of other agents who were instructed to discover in what fashion he might carry out his bargain with the German Emperor, and how far his influence might affect public policy and the vigorous prosecution of the war. I had not long to wait, for he was summoned to advise the Czarina almost immediately upon his return.

His open boasting about that interview has since received the fullest confirmation, and there is little doubt that he gave a faithful account to his admirers of the essential details of it. The Czarina had discovered, or thought she had, that the health of the Czarevitch had suffered from the absence of Rasputin and the lack of his ministrations; but the Starets put aside the idea that the cause of the supposed relapse was so slight as his mere absence.

"It is the grievous sin of the war," he declared, "which endangers again the life of the Czarevitch and your own as well. The terrible and dangerous illnesses from which you were both recovering were the punishment sent to the Czar for waging the sinful war upon the Japanese, in which hundreds of thousands of men perished.

"War brings you and your family into the direst personal danger. This war must be ended without delay, otherwise it will cost both the Czarevitch and you your precious lives, and the Czar his throne as well. Let there be no delay about the conclusion of a peace."

It is true that even as he spoke these words Russia was putting her hand to a solemn treaty whereby she abstained from making any peace with her enemies that was not also a peace for her allies of France and Great Britain. Before the ink was dry upon the paper on which that treaty was inscribed, there were those in Russia—and the Czarina was of their number—who were already taking steps to procure a separate peace for Germany.

For many months the visit of various peace emissaries from Darmstadt, the residence of the Grand Duke of Hesse, to the Czarina at Petrograd had been a matter of knowledge among those who were acquainted with the inner history of the Court. Some of these, such as the notorious Madame Wassilitchkoff, were badly chosen, and suffered for their hardihood. Others paved the way for a secret visit of the Grand Duke himself, who came to Czarskoe Selo in the summer of 1916 armed with full powers of negotiation from the Kaiser, and remained hidden in the Palace for more than a week.

A MOMENTOUS MEETING.

The outcome of his visit was the consideration of a definite offer of peace by the Council of Ministers, over which the Czar presided. The terms offered were boldly announced by Von Stuermer; they gave Constantinople and the control of the Dardanelles to Russia, and awarded Egypt to Turkey in compensation for this deprivation. They also provided for an act of the topmost treachery on the part of Russia, which was to turn upon her Ally, Great Britain, in Mesopotamia, and overwhelm the British arms in the East in an irretrievable disaster.

"They are the best terms which we shall ever get," said Von Stuermer complacently, when he had finished outlining them. "I think that we should accept them." To the everlasting credit of the Czar it has to be said that he rejected these terms with scorn; and then hastened to the front to avoid the approaches of the Czarina and the advice with which he was continually pestered by Rasputin.

And now, in order that I may make clear the means by which Russia was delivered from this malign man, I must refer briefly to my own relations with him, which were protracted, with intervals, over some years. During that time I had a difficult part to play.

I had to employ with him all the arts of the coquette, and in using these I was made many times to realise that the slightest mistake on my part exposed me to the most dangerous consequences. Some of the rebuffs I was forced to administer brought upon me his most profound anger, and for months at a time I was excluded from his circle, and from the philosophical discourses which I pretended were the magnet which drew me to his house. If he had not been so vain a man I should probably have been shut out from his circle entirely; but he was incapable of believing that any woman could continue to resist his fascinations for ever, and renewed his pursuit of me after every interval of sulky anger.

RESTLESSNESS OF THE PEOPLE.

When winter had set in at the end of 1916 it had become evident to everybody that there must sooner or later be a rising of the people. I need not tell you how we hoped and planned for it, for we had so hoped and planned through many years, both in peace and in war. It is nearer to the point of my story that many patriotic Russians were striving by every just means to avert it, and at the same time to save Russia from the ruin into which she was falling at the hands of the miscreants who now guided the country into danger which was daily increasing.

Many of these, including the Czar's cousin, the Grand Duke Nicholas, had been banished from Court and from participation in national affairs as the result of the strength of the remonstrances they had addressed to the Czar in person against the influence exercised by the pro-Germans at Court through the person of Rasputin. This party of the friends of the Monarchy, which included some of the ablest and noblest Russians of the day, believed that an instant period could be put to the influence of the camarilla by the removal of Rasputin himself, though, as events have shown, the evil was seated far too deeply to permit of a remedy so simple.

The widowed Grand Duchess Serge, sister of the ex-Czarina, is a German Princess.

The ex-Czarina's brother, the Grand Duke of Hesse, whose divorced wife married the Grand Duke Cyril.

Among those who thought along these lines was the Deputy, Purishkevitch, who represented Bessarabia in the Duma, and was one of the wittiest and most forceful speakers in that assembly. He is a strong Monarchist, but at the same time a strong patriot and, above all things, a hater of Germany and German influence in Russia. His views were shared to the full by the young Prince Felix Youssoupoff, among others, and it was from Purishkevitch and Prince Youssoupoff that the plan for removing Rasputin from his position of malign influence at Court was originated.

DEEPENING OF THE PLOT.

Prince Felix Youssoupoff had married a niece of the Czar, the Princess Irene, and the pair were on friendly terms with all the inner members of the circle which surrounded Rasputin himself. I had performed more than once at their house, or rather Palace, on the Moika Canal, and had seen there at one time and another all the dangerous and infatuated women who were now known as "the Court peace party." Countess Kleinmichael, Mdlle. Vyrobova, Countess von Drenteln, and a number of other ladies who bore German names were all intimates of the Palace, as, indeed, they were of many fashionable homes of Petrograd.

It will be understood, then, that there was nothing remarkable in the circumstance that Prince Youssoupoff should issue an invitation to Rasputin to dine with Purishkevitch, especially as the Starets was notified that the company would include only his own intimates at Court. He accepted the invitation readily enough, but before keeping his appointment consulted his accomplice, Protopopoff, who referred the matter to the secret police. On the advice of M. Balk, the chief of police, Rasputin failed to keep his appointment.

For this failure he was reproached by members of his own circle, who hoped to secure the able support of Purishkevitch for their peace plotting. He consented to an arrangement for a second dinner, and once more he was prevailed upon by his police guardians to absent himself. In this emergency the men who were desirous of his presence cast about for some further inducement, and it was suggested that I might be able to provide it. The suggestion was therefore made to me by the Princess Youssoupoff herself that in the cause of Russia I should be present at a third dinner, and should endeavour to induce Rasputin to attend it, employing any means in my power.

She was not aware, of course, that I was the servant of a society, the aims and ends of which were opposed to her own. I could not tell her that all my acts were directed by the order of my superiors, but I was able to refer my request to those above me. I received instructions to forward the intentions of Purishkevitch, and to render any assistance I could to any scheme which might check the enormous power now wielded by Rasputin. I therefore signified my acceptance of the invitation, and the effort to induce Rasputin to attend was renewed, with an intimation that I expected to meet him there.

In order that there should be no failure on this occasion, I myself drove with Prince Youssopoff in his car to the house of Rasputin, and it was necessary for me to show myself at the window of the car before the wily monk could be lured from his place of retreat from danger. We drove away with our captive—for such I regarded him from the moment he set foot in the car—and I had the satisfaction of noticing an agent on a motor cycle rushing off to inform Protopopoff that Rasputin had ventured out with the Prince.

I informed Prince Youssoupoff of what I had seen, and he was therefore prepared for the visit paid to his palace by Balk, the Chief of Police, who declared that he had come at the order of M. Protopopoff, in order to take measures for the safety of Rasputin. To this insolence the Prince responded with an order that he should leave the palace at once, and several police agents were ejected from the grounds by his own servants before the dinner could be served. Of these events Rasputin was kept in ignorance; while his suspicions were allayed by the circle of familiar faces that greeted him around the dinner table.

Among those present, Purishkevitch was the only person who could be considered a stranger, and his presence was accounted for by his public position, and the fact that Rasputin had been informed of his wish to discuss matters of national policy. The Starets threw off all reserve, and abandoned himself to the pleasures of the table, drinking with a lack of restraint which proved how effectually he had cast off his suspicions.

THE MAN WITH THE MASK.

The dinner was a long and noisy one. It had nearly come to an end, when a quarrel broke out with startling suddenness. Amid a chorus of protesting voices I became aware that Prince Youssoupoff was on his feet, facing Rasputin with a white, drawn face, and protesting that, as host, he had been insulted. The monk remained seated, and I could see, from where I sat opposite to him, the evil, murderous look in his glittering eyes as he slid his right hand under the table.

Then, from behind the window hangings behind him, appeared a man with a masked face, who raised his hand and fired one shot from his pistol. It caught the monk as he was raising his own automatic against the Prince. Rasputin fell forward, with his arms sprawling among the glasses and coffee cups. He was dead before anyone could reach him.

From the banquet of death the affrighted women admirers rose shrieking with fear. Some of them were in a state of frenzy, and demanded all the attention that could be given them. Some of the men were in almost a more pitiable state, and it was some time before the apartment could be cleared of its terror-stricken revellers. In the end, the Prince and Purishkevitch, together with myself, were left alone with the stiffening corpse of the man who had deserved death, if ever traitor did.

The men asked me to leave the room while they made the body ready for removal, but I refused to go. I saw them strip it of the long blue robe, and throw hastily over it an old uniform they procured from somewhere in the servants' apartments. Thus attired it was carried out to the waiting motor car, and the Prince went in search of instruments for use in its burial. Thus I had to repeat to him three or four times that the ground was frozen too hard to make this possible before he grasped my point, so excited was he by the rapid succession of events.

In the end we drove off with a couple of picks he had found in the gardener's shed, and made along the bank of the canal. We alighted at a lonely part, and with the picks broke a large hole through the thick ice. Into this the body was cast, and there it remained until it was discovered on the following day by a search party organised by his friends, who had promptly been informed of the tragic conclusion of the banquet. Before it was found I was fleeing from Russia.

For many days after the receipt of the tidings the Czarina was prostrated by emotions that were deeper far than mere grief. She had been warned so often by Rasputin that the safety of her son, and the Czar's very occupation of the throne, depended upon Rasputin himself that she endured a very agony of terror. All her old delusions were revived, and intensified by the fears occasioned by the execution of this man, to the guarding of whom the whole resource of the Russian secret police had been employed.

In the midst of her terror and anger she had time to think of the disposal of the body of the dead monk. By her express orders it was conveyed to Czarskoe Seloe, and was given a stately burial in the grounds of the Czar's own private chapel, where a pretentious tomb was built, and the body of this rogue was laid as though he had been a person of the utmost distinction.

A STRANGE BELIEF.

When that had been done she developed the belief that the spirit of the dead man would rise above the trammels which bound it, and return to earth to give her the consolation and advice which she required in this extremity. This belief, which she freely expressed to those who surrounded her, paved the way to the last great imposture. From her own sister, the widow of the Grand Duke Serge, down to Dr Badaeff, the quack who had been Rasputin's jackal, the 'occultists" who surrounded the Czarina hastened to subscribe to her belief.

It is known that Mdlle. Vyrobova played a guilty and conscious part with Dr Badaeff in the stupid farce which followed. Among others who took part in it was M. Protopopoff, the Minister of the Interior, but whether he was dupe or accomplice, who can say? His credulity was immeasurable, and he was, and still remains, in a very weak state of health. The fear of total paralysis had induced him to submit to the ministrations of Badaeff, who not only treated him by "faith," but administered concoctions the sovereign merit of which he asserted he had discovered, by much prayer and fasting, during a pilgrimage in the lesser known parts of Tibet.

There were scores of others as credulous as he, so that it was no difficult matter at their nightly seances to summon the spirit of Rasputin from the world beyond, and obtain from this source such advice as might suit the very dangerous frame of mind in which the Czarina now found herself. The nature of that advice was dictated by the circumstances that had been provoked, not only in Petrograd but in every large city in Northern Russia.

The people stood all day outside the bread shops clamouring for bread, knowing well that there was abundance of wheat in the granaries of the south. "Starve them into peace," was the ghostly counsel of the circle of occultists, after due consultation with Rasputin's spirit. "If they rise in revolt, as they surely will, let the police be ready for them at all quarters. In this way the Czar shall be seated more firmly on his throne than ever."

The safety of the throne was more, far more, to the Czarina than the safety of Russia. She recognised in the ghostly counsel that came to her through these seances the very voice of Rasputin himself, and she was not wrong. Though he was dead his voice still spoke, through the dishonest, traitorous gang who had gathered around him, and the advice they conjured up by their arts of deception was the very advice that Rasputin would have given had he still remained in the flesh.

So Prince Youssoupoff and his friends could not save their Emperor. Even while the removal of the miscreant monk was being planned wiser heads and stronger hands than theirs were concerting measures to avert the anarchy to which Russia was rapidly drifting, and the dark forces around the Czar and Czarina were recklessly putting forward the day of their own destruction.

THE BURSTING OF THE STORM.

All the world knows how the storm burst, and swept the traitors away to the prisons, where they now await the justice Russia will mete out to them. Protopopoff was arrested at the villa of the quack doctor, steeped in drugs and trembling with terror. All the evil plotting Germans were arrested and thrown into the fortress—old Count Fredericks and his daughter, the Countess Kleinmichael, found in hiding in the Chinese Embassy, Vyrobova and Madame Sukhomlinoff, with scores more of those who had planned to betray Russia. Their papers were all seized, and all have passed into the hands of Bourtaeff himself, who was recalled from his exile in Siberia to unravel the tangled plots which were woven around the decaying throne of the fallen Romanoffs.

The remains of the evil man Rasputin were exhumed from the spot where they had been laid with so much pomp and ceremony, and were cast ignominiously down in the courtyard of the fortress of St Peter and St Paul. There, amid the execrations of the incensed crowd who had gathered to witness the spectacle, they were publicly burned, and the ashes were scattered to the winds of heaven.

So perish all who do the like again.

Starts on Sunday First

THE MOST ASTOUNDING REVELATIONS OF THE WAR

BEHIND THE GERMAN VEIL

BY

J. M. DE BEAUFORT,

THE MAN WHO INTERVIEWED HINDENBURG AND "PRAYED" WITH THE KAISER.

A Complete Exposure of the Military, Naval, Diplomatic, and Civil Conditions in Germany.

Mr de Beaufort provides what has been sought for over two years—the exact state of affairs in Germany, what the great Prussian leaders are thinking, and how Hunland throughout is viewing the progress of hostilities.

Mr de Beaufort took risks, the biggest risks any man in his position could have taken.

He possessed a letter of introduction to Hindenburg written by the nephew of the Prussian idol, and although it acted like magic many times, there were many occasions when, to use de Beaufort's own words, he experienced "a cold shiver down his spine."

The author, in the company of Von Bethmann Hollweg, nephew of the Chancellor (on the left), and Lieut. Von Pfow (on the right), snapped during his adventurous journey to interview Hindenburg.

The following are a few of the subjects he deals with:—

My Daring Exploit to Interview Hindenburg.
A Midnight Flight From Berlin.
Exciting Adventures on German Troop Trains.
My Meeting with Von Bethmann Hollweg, nephew of the Chancellor.
Arrest at Posen Station.
Bethmann Hollweg to the Rescue.
Face to Face with Hindenburg.
Hindenburg's Hatred of Berlin Military Staff.
Hindenburg and the Duration of the War.
Why he Admires the British Soldier.
When I "Prayed" With the Kaiser.
Touring in the War Lord's "Motor Car" Procession.
Behind the German Lines in the East—Without a Permit.
What I Saw at Germany's Strongest Eastern Fortresses.
Incognito Visits to Kiel, Cuxhaven, and Wilhelmshaven.
Adventures with the Camera—Caught by the Crown Prince.
The Zeppelins—a List of the Bases and the Latest Information.
Remarkable Admission by Herr Crass—Krupp's Representative.
Who's Who Amongst the German Spies and What They are Doing.

To illustrate his revelations concerning the German Naval Bases and Coastal Defences Mr de Beaufort provides a number of IMPORTANT MAPS, DIAGRAMS, AND PLANS.

THIS EXCLUSIVE SERIES
COMMENCES IN
THE POST SUNDAY SPECIAL
NEXT WEEK

LATEST FROM LONDON.

HAIG'S CRITICS CONFOUNDED.

IRISH PARTY'S ATTITUDE

(By "Post" Special Wire.)

London, Saturday Night.

TO those who know what was going on behind the scenes a few weeks ago, the personal triumph won by Sir Douglas Haig is not the least gratifying aspect of the successful British offensive.

The British Commander-in-Chief did not lack his critics in those dark days towards the end of the winter, when there was nothing to show for the trench fighting to which operations then were necessarily confined. Happily Sir Douglas Haig is the most supported leader the British Army now possesses.

There are others who have come to the front during the last twelve months who would doubtless be able to take his place if the necessity arose. But it would have been a cruel thing if after months of patient preparation the British Commander-in-Chief had had to surrender the leadership into other hands, and had been compelled to stand aside and watch another reap the fruits of the seed he had sown.

The news of the last few days discloses the heroic Scottish General as one whose foresight is something akin to the second sight which our Celtic ancestors have been credited with, and strengthens the confidence which the British public have all along had in him.

After the Recess.

The House of Commons reassembles on Tuesday after its Easter recess, and all the indications are that legislators will be kept exceedingly busy for some little time to come.

The Bill extending the life of Parliament until November 30 is the first important business that has to be taken. The Government apparently hope to get this measure through all its stages in the Commons by Wednesday night, but it is exceedingly doubtful whether this hope will be realised.

The Nationalist members are holding a meeting on Tuesday before the House meets, and it is not unlikely that they will endeavour to hold up the Parliament Bill until a definite statement regarding the Government's Irish settlement proposals is made.

If there is anything in the nature of systematic obstruction, the closure, of course, will have to be invoked, for under the existing Act the present Parliament automatically comes to an end on April 30, unless its life is extended.

A Secret Session?

Immediately on the assembling of the House notice will be given from the Treasury Bench of a motion welcoming America's entry into the war.

This will probably be taken on Wednesday, and it is expected that Mr Lloyd George himself will come down to the House to move it, and that it will be seconded by Mr Asquith from the Front Opposition Bench.

Early announcement is also expected of the Government's decision with regard to holding another secret session, and with so much business in prospect it is probable that the Budget will not be introduced until the end of April or the beginning of May.

Mr Balfour's Critic Apologises.

A good deal of controversy was occasioned by the criticism of Mr Balfour in one of the evening papers because he did not attend the Pilgrims' dinner. The Foreign Secretary was warned that the British public would not tolerate for an instant any lukewarmness in the attitude of our Foreign Office towards our American Ally, and that he must line up with democracy.

All's well that ends well, however, and the journal makes the amende honourable to-night by explaining that the absence of Mr Balfour, so far from being a discourtesy either to the Pilgrims or to the United States was due to causes as remarkable as they are satisfactory

It was intimated that at the time of the dinner Mr Balfour was engaged on important business, and later on the public will have an opportunity of appreciating to the fullest extent the reasons which compelled Mr Balfour to be officially represented by Lord Robert Cecil.

Mr Lavery's Picture.

The greatest interest is being evinced in the picture which Mr John Lavery is to exhibit at the forthcoming Academy exhibition.

Mr Lavery who, as everyone knows, belongs to the Glasgow School of Art, has broken new ground with a religious picture. The subject is the Madonna with the patron saint of Ireland and St Bridget, and I understand that the figure of the Madonna was painted from Mrs Lavery

The same artist is to be represented at the exhibition by two portraits—one of Mrs Samuel and the other of Mrs Morrison Bell.

For Sale: Mr Seymour Hicks.

There is sure to be some excitement over the fate of Mr Seymour Hicks, who is putting himself up to auction on Tuesday for the benefit of the fund to provide motor ambulances. Mr Hicks will have in his pocket thousands of pounds which he has collected for charities, and this will go to any purchaser who exceeds the amount, along with the power to ask the famous actor to serve him in any capacity he wills.

Apart from freak stunts, which Mr Seymour Hicks bars, he is willing to do anything—from running with a letter to carrying a sandwich board.

The sale of Mr Hicks, lock, stock, and barrel, to use his own words, is to take place at a special matinee for the fund at the Princes Theatre.

ENEMY PREPARING FOR NAVAL BATTLE.

TRUTH ABOUT U-BOAT FAILURE LEAKING OUT IN GERMANY.

BY MAURICE PRENDERGAST.

London, Saturday Night.

FEW people have taken the trouble to observe the accumulating effect of the wholesale seizures of Austrian and German shipping in American ports. The total tonnage is growing to enormous dimensions, and even by incomplete returns it is obvious that our chief enemies have lost nearly a million tons of their mercantile marine in one week.

The Admiralty refuses to give any idea of the weekly tonnage destroyed by the U-boats, and only publishes statistics giving the number of vessels sunk. On the other hand, the Berlin Naval Staff produces returns every month giving fantastic estimates of the tonnage gleaned by German submarines. Usually it is about 700,000 tons per month that the enemy modestly rates his efforts at, but the American Republics have been nibbling at the Austrian and German mercantile fleets at the rate of four millions of tons per month!

Unfortunately, hostile shipping can only be seized once, while the U-boat ravages on shipping are carried on from week to week and from month to month. The comparison is therefore purely artificial.

> However, the acquisition of a million tons of hostile shipping by the Allied and neutral countries has put the hands of the U-boat clock back six months, for it immediately compensates for the dearth of shipping caused by the intensified U-boat campaign of the past half-year.

Germany's sole chance of success in the piracy game consisted in sinking shipping so rapidly that it could not be replaced in time before starvation overtook us. Four or six months hence Germany may have sunk a tonnage equivalent to that seized in American ports during the past week. But four months will give us sufficient breathing space to exterminate a fair proportion of the U boats, to get the standard and armed merchant ships into working order, and to complete our efforts at intensified food production. Accordingly, the million tons of Austrian and German shipping appropriated on the other side of the Atlantic and put into service will put us on the right side of the safety line, in spite of the most frenzied efforts of the U boats.

The Allies and their new friends have called the dormant hostile shipping in the New World into being to redress the balance in the old. It will be a particularly poetic kind of justice if the captured Austro German steamers frustrate the efforts of the enemy to starve the Allies into submission.

America's Three-Fold Assistance.

Naval co-operation by the United States with the Allies turns out to be very much of the nature forecasted in these columns last week. For the present the United States undertakes to patrol and protect American waters from Nova Scotia to the Antilles Islands. I have found people searching large scale maps for the Antilles Islands, under the impression they were some microscopic points off the South American coast. The Greater Antilles consist of Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, and Puerto Rico, while the Lesser Antilles are all the other small islands from Puerto Rico down to the South American coast.

The United States also promises to join the Allies in "policing the high seas "against commerce destroyers." The term "commerce destroyers" includes both U boats and disguised raiders of the Moewe species, and it is against the Moewes that American naval assistance will be the most valuable. The United States further promises to help the Allied fleets in European waters, so that her threefold assistance is of the most generous and practical nature.

> American opinion is rather sensitive; so we had better recollect that the United States is fighting with the Allies, and not for the Allies. We have to fight for ourselves and not rely on other nations to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for us, while we do nothing.

Mostly Moonshine.

The literary activities of Graf von Reventlow and Captain Persius, the German naval critics, are well worth watching, because these two fulminating scribes perform the function of official weathercocks. Both are very much under the thumb of the Berlin Naval Staff, and their published writings are usually prepared from official inspiration. The latest lucubration by our old friend, the Count, is rather puzzling. Reventlow appears to have qualms about the policy of the present naval authorities and gives vent to mild, but mysterious, criticisms of Admiral von Capelle. For instance, here is one passage:—

> "We are very pleased to hear from Admiral von Capelle that the navy has decided to bring the work it has undertaken to a victorious end in a truly military sense. . . . We gladly note his words; let us, at any rate temporarily, hope he meant what he said."

In other words, Reventlow suspects that Von Capelle's promise of "a victorious end" to Germany's naval warfare is mostly moonshine, but he is disposed to give the Naval Secretary a little more time to justify the promise of victory. At another point Reventlow makes the announcement that "our U boats stand or fall with the High Sea Fleet," a notable departure from the previous promise that the U boat alone could secure victory by starving Great Britain out. According to the new declaration, it looks as if Reventlow proclaims the view that the U boat can only succeed if the High Sea Fleet actively exerts itself. This is a very significant admission.

Reventlow is, of course, renowned as the man who preached ultra-frightfulness by U boat day in and day out for the past two years. So ferocious did some of his writings become, that the German authorities had, at times, to suppress him. Now he appears to be making some attempt at hedging, possibly because he finds that all his promises about the U boat will be finally falsified. Accordingly he clamours for the High Sea Fleet and the U boat; a month hence he may be demanding an active campaign by the High Sea Fleet without the U boat.

At present he seems to be in the middle stage of sloughing the skin of his convictions about the efficacy of submarine warfare. No one doubts that his articles are written under the direction and instruction of the Naval Staff, and when Reventlow begins to talk about the High Sea Fleet undertaking active operations we can be fairly sure that his smoke springs from some official fire.

A Decisive Naval Battle.

No evidence has yet been produced to controvert the view that, within the next four months, a great and decisive naval battle will be fought in the North Sea. The more severely the Germans are hammered on land the greater will be their inclination to gamble for the redress of their waning fortunes on the sea.

Rumours are already circulating in neutral countries about great naval preparations at Kiel and Wilhelmshaven. The new Dreadnoughts Bayern, Baden, Saschen (or Wurtemburg), and the new battle-cruisers Hindenburg, Furst Bismarck, and Mackensen are all reported to be complete now, and have compensated the High Sea Fleet for the losses it sustained in the Battle of Jutland. Any day and every day is now the possible occasion for a colossal conflict between the Grand Fleet and the Hoch See Flotte.

A fortnight ago the country was disturbed by sensational rumours about an invasion, which, in magnitude and detail, recalled the famous landing of the "Russian Cossacks" at Leith in 1914. Ridiculous as all the commotion was, it sprang from a certain amount of fact. Few people appreciate that fairly authentic evidence exists to prove two earlier and futile attempts made in 1914 and 1916 for the purpose of landing German troops on our shores.

> The invasion question cannot be a myth, for the simple reason that naval and military forces are kept in readiness to deal with such an attempt.

Reventlow's "active operations" by the Hoch See Flotte may be attributed, if you wish, to some invasion plan, but his latest contribution is so mysterious and indefinite in tone it is best not to try and read too much meaning into his obscure hints But as he is one of the official weather-cocks of German naval policy, his writings deserve careful attention. And they will get it.

Captain Persius has been trimming his sails. When the new U boat warfare broke out he was the only German writer of repute who dared to warn the public not to expect immediate results from the new campaign, or to indulge in roseate dreams about the speedy end of the war.

He has now been put up to give a long account of all the anti-submarine expedients employed by the Allies. His account of our defensive measures is founded, for the most part, on antiquated information, and naturally predicts the ultimate failure of all our attempts to exterminate U boats. The German public has become inconveniently curious about rumours of great submarine losses, and wishes to know when the starvation of the Allied countries, promised in last February, is going to begin. Persius asks them to have patience and faith in the U boats, and advises them that they must practically disregard exaggerated reports about the number of German submarines which have been lost.

It looks as if the truth is beginning to leak out, even in Germany, for submarines are now ordered to return to a different naval base to the one from which they commence any cruise. The naval authorities hope this expedient will prevent the U boat crews from learning how many of their consorts have been lost.

The Anti-German Cyclone.

Following the example of the United States, Cuba has now declared war on Germany, and adds eleven small gunboats or converted yachts to the naval strength of the Allies. Brazil has found her "overt act" in the sinking of the Parana. Diplomatic relations with Berlin have been broken off, and all German or Austrian steamers in Brazilian ports have been seized. The Argentine Republic has voiced its approval of President Wilson's policy, and will probably confirm this verbal esteem by action. Two little Central American republics, Panama and Guatemala, have declared they will have no further truck with Germany. Chile and Uruguay proclaim neutrality, but they may not remain long indifferent to the fiery cross which has been raised in the New World.

The chief naval Powers of South America are, of course, the "A B C Republics," Argentine, Brazil, and Chile. Naval rivalry exists between all three countries, for, in spite of joint agreements, one nation always fears a hostile combination by the other two. Accordingly, when one country orders two new Dreadnoughts in England, the other nations feel compelled to follow suit, and order a brace of new battleships apiece. The naval strength of the Argentine, Brazil, and Chile is almost exactly balanced, each country possessing an effective fighting fleet of 31 warships.

A Skilful Night Attack.

If a census were taken of all the coastal towns mentioned in naval despatches I think Zeebrugge would come out somewhere near the top. The war has certainly brought fame, or rather an unenviable notoriety, to this obscure Belgian port, which, before 1915, was not even on the map. The latest affray off Zeebrugge redounds to our credit, and even the meagre Admiralty report indicates a careful and skilful night attack carried out by aerial and naval forces. Seaplanes again attacked and bombed the famous mole, on which the enemy has mounted guns of fairly large calibre. "Other operations," says our discreet Admiralty, "were carried out during the same night, as the result of which two enemy destroyers were torpedoed. One of these was seen to sink."

The official German report limned in a few more details, which our naval authorities declined to pen. By means only known to themselves our submarines got inside the elaborate guard of mines, trap-nets, and patrols before Zeebrugge and torpedoed two German destroyers. The boat which succumbed to her injuries was the G88, a brand new destroyer built at the Krupp Germania Yard in 1915. Details regarding this enemy unit are rather vague, but she is supposed to have been of 1000 tons displacement or above, and armed with three guns and six torpedo tubes.

ENEMY PREPARING FOR NAVAL BATTLE—Continued.

GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS.

Warning to Readers.

Newsagents all over the country are now booking orders for regular delivery of THE POST SUNDAY SPECIAL.

The last day of April is the last day on which you can purchase a paper on the old plan. The Government has stopped returns after that date, and your only method of securing your favourite paper is to give your order to a newsagent or dealer. If you do so to-day your help will be greatly appreciated by the trade and the publisher.

KING CHATS WITH DUNDEE HERO

WHO WINS MILITARY CROSS.

POPULAR SCOTTISH NURSE HONOURED.

London, Saturday.

There were several Scottish officers and nurses amongst those on whom the King conferred decorations to-day at Buckingham Palace for distinguished service at the front.

The investiture was one of the largest which has been held during the war, and lasted for over two hours. Chief interest centred to-day in two flying men, both of whom performed marvellous feats on the Western front. His Majesty, before pinning on the M.C., heard an official account of the exploits, and then cordially congratulated them on their heroism.

One of the most interesting recipients of the M.C. was Captain Loggie, of Dundee, who was awarded the decoration for exceptional bravery and resourcefulness on the Western front. Capt. Loggie arrived at the Palace with a few Scottish friends, and was one of the first to be introduced to the King. His Majesty evinced particular interest in the War Office record of Captain Loggie's career in France, and chatted with the officer for several minutes on his experiences on the Western front

The King expressed great pleasure at meeting Captain Loggie and his fellow-officers, and in the course of conversation assured them of his continuous interest in their activities in France.

Among the nursing sisters with whom the King talked was one Scottish lady who has been engaged in Red Cross work since the outbreak of war. She had been highly commended for her devotion to duty and heroism in France, where she is immensely popular with the Scottish troops.

MILITARY CROSS FOR RUGBY PLAYER.

Second-Lieutenant R. W. H. Semple, 7th Camerons, who has won the Military Cross, is the third son of Mr Stewart Semple, Musselburgh Co-Operative Store manager, and was a commercial traveller. He joined as a private two years ago. He was well known as a Rugby player for Musselburgh Grammar School and Brunstane club.

LATEST COMMENTS FROM THE WORLD'S PRESS.

A Hun-ting.

A popular song in the United States just now—"A Hun-ting we will go."—London Star.

Enforce Economy.

If we are heading towards famine the Food Controller ought to be enforcing economy instead of pleading for it.—Dundee Courier.

Changed Arabian Nights.

Even the good Haroun-Al-Raschid couldn't do any prowling around Bagdad these nights without a military pass.—Montreal Star.

All Dressed Up—

The German diplomats that China dismissed are in the position of men who are all dressed up but have no place to go.—Seattle Times.

Cut It Out!

The world must cut from its flesh this German cancer. Upon the success of the excision depends the life of civilisation.—New York Tribune.

A Blunder.

It may be all right for the individual to assume that the war is near an end. For the nation to do so and act accordingly is a blunder.—Toronto Star.

Too Proud to Fight.

Like President Wilson, the House of Commons is often too proud to fight, but when its tail is sufficiently twisted there is another aspect to the lion's mane and whiskers.—Truth.

Why the Kaiser Turns Reformer.

The defeats administered by Haig are not hid from the Kaiser, though they are kept from his subjects, and Wilhelm "does" know that the game is up.—Weekly News.

Let Them Soar!

The only way to deal with the shortage of food is to allow prices to soar as high as they will. The peculiarity of the evil of nigh prices is that the evil cures itself.—Spectator.

Huns Who Will Have to Go.

The broom will certainly be busy before long in the headquarters of various German generals, who, in a now famous phrase, have not precisely acted "according to plan."—Saturday Review.

Reventlow's Bunkum.

Whatever the Americans say and do is based on humbug. That is the only power in their land. Barnum is much more a representative American than Washington.—Deutsche Tageszeitung.

And, Behold, An Ass Brayed!

Von Hindenburg said Germany would not shorten her Western front on any terms. She would hold her positions for thirty years if necessary. Confusion worse confounded always waits on German boasts.—Vancouver World.

Friends of the Enemy.

Even in war the Germans have their friends and agents in this country; in peace they will not want backers, and they will veil their activities with specious cries of cheapness, international amity, and the food of the people.—Morning Post.

Who Laughs Last.

The efficiency of the anti-submarine defence is more than keeping pace with the growth of the piratical danger, even if the Boches could multiply their submarine power with as much ease as they can advertise it.—Naval and Military Record.

The Perpetual Party Quarrel.

One of the worst weaknesses of the party system, or the social state that permitted its existence, was that the quarrel was never supposed to be settled. In such a state an open question is preserved like an open wound.—New Witness.

Prohibition Fallacy.

The teetotallers seek merely to destroy the public-house; and they offer to the masses of the people, as an alternative, nothing but the absence of public-houses But it is a fallacy to assume that, when something is wrong, the right course is to be found in the opposite of the wrong.—New Statesman.

Our Own Hindenburg!

Neither the manners nor the methods of Lord Devonport please us. The Food Controller rarely approaches his subject except in a minatory attitude; Hindenburg after his march on the Metropolis could not issue orders to the conquered Londoners in a haughtier tone than Lord Devonport.—Outlook.

The Push.

We've pushed 'em orf the "Anker,"
We've pushed 'em orf the Somme,
We'll push 'em out o' Belgium
Wiv bay'nit an' wiv bomb.
We've pushed 'em out o' Bagdad
An' into Palestine,
An' glory to the gen'ral
Who can push 'em past the Rhine!

—N. H. Gubbins, in Daily Express.

OUR BEST WEEK SINCE WAR BEGAN.

SPLENDID TRIUMPHS SECURED AT UNBELIEVABLY LOW COST.

BY GUY L'ESTRANGE.

(OVER "POST" SPECIAL WIRE.)

London, Saturday Night.

IT has been the best week we have known since the war began.

The great British offensive of 1917 has only been in progress for a few days, but already it has given us results exceeding the utmost expectations.

When Sir Douglas Haig, in his famous interview with the French journalists, told us about his plans several weeks ago he warned us not to expect any instant spectacular triumph. The big push, we were told, would not be confined to any one sector, but would test the German line at various points until the weak spot was found, and a clean break through could be effected.

We are feeling for this weak spot now, but contrary to what Sir Douglas Haig led us to expect the operations have already yielded us big triumphs. That much we may fairly claim, despite Sir Douglas Haig's warning that there would be much hard, grim fighting before any sensible impression was created on the enemy's front. But it is well to bear the warning in mind, even though it appears already to have been falsified by results.

A triumph we have most assuredly won. If we exclude the negative victory our French Allies achieved when they held the Germans at bay at Verdun, the Battle of Arras unquestionably marks the biggest success the Allies have attained on the Western front since the armies became static under the influence of the trench war which followed after the Battle of the Marne.

Gratifying News About Casualties.

We have already captured over thirteen thousand prisoners and a great quantity of war material. Some of the big guns we captured were instantly turned on the retreating enemy, doing good service in harassing the demoralised foe in the interval between the bringing up of our own artillery. On the opening day of the offensive alone we captured more prisoners than were brought in by the French and British combined during the first two days of the fighting on the Somme.

It is gratifying to be able to state that our casualties during the early days of the offensive have been substantially lower than was feared and expected.

The exact figures may not be given, but it may be stated that by comparison with the losses we incurred at the beginning of the Somme push, they are almost unbelievably low.

It is well to put this on record, because reports leading to a very different conclusion have already got abroad. The misapprehension which appears to exist in some quarters about our casualties is due to the tremendous pressure the fighting has imposed on our field hospitals.

It is a fact, I believe, that the doctors and nurses are overwhelmed with work. But this is to be attributed not so much to our own casualties as to the enormous number of German wounded who have passed through our clearing stations.

Of our own wounded it may be said, moreover, that a large proportion of the cases are those of men admitted as slightly wounded. But by far the most reassuring thing is the indication afforded that the more scientific methods of attack we are now adopting are not nearly so costly in human life as the earlier methods pursued in the Somme.

Germans Taken by Surprise.

In this particular our French Allies have been able to teach us a great deal. All accounts agree that Sir Douglas Haig's attack, when it was launched, took the Germans completely by surprise. Statements made by prisoners suggest that a British offensive was expected a few days before it was actually launched, and preparations were started for the retirement which might be necessary. When the expected attack failed to eventuate on the day it was looked for these preparations were suspended, or at least postponed. When the blow did actually fall it found the enemy unprepared—a fact which undoubtedly contributed to the distant successes that were attained.

Sir Douglas Haig is striking over a fifty mile front, whilst to the south of St Quentin our French Allies are not inactive. A thrust from the Champagne might, if successful, easily menace the enemy's communications, and might even turn the line of the Meuse, from which Von Hindenburg is supposed to be falling back.

Secret of Our Success.

All experts are agreed that the secret of our success is the efficiency and magnitude of our artillery fire. There can be no harm in saying now that the full fruits of our victory on the Somme, which we just missed during last autumn, might have been achieved despite the break up of the weather if our artillery had been as well served then as it is well served now.

It was not that there was any shortage of munitions even in the autumn of 1916. Far from it. The difficulty was that the railways then in existence could not feed the guns fast enough.

Everyone knows that the railway system behind our lines which feed our army from the Channel ports has been revolutionised since then. Von Hindenburg hoped to distract all that had been effected in this direction by his strategic retreat on the Somme. But he reckoned without the resourcefulness of our engineers. The ground that the Germans have evacuated on the Somme front has already been covered with a fresh network of roads and railways, and what we have done on the Somme we can do elsewhere. The Germans in their retirement may destroy the railways, mine the roads, and blow up the canal gates. How quickly all this damage can be repaired has been demonstrated during the last six weeks.

Notable Work of Our Aviators.

In paying tribute to the part which the artillery at the front and the munition workers at home have played in contributing to the British success, the work done also by our Flying Corps ought not to be forgotten.

The flying men brought back seventeen hundred photographs, and it may well be that the discovery was made that preparations were afoot for another retirement which would have imposed further delay, and would have enabled Von Hindenburg again to get his armies away intact. Sir Douglas Haig struck swiftly, and the week's fighting has given him results which already threaten the secondary defensive line on which, as many people suppose, Von Hindenburg intended to retire when the pressure of the British and French advance no longer made it possible for him to retain his hold on Cambrai. This line, as often stated, covers the Lens coalfields and runs to the south of Valenciennes and Hirson Tomezieres, and afterwards follows the course of the Meuse till it links up with the present German line in the neighbourhood of Verdun.

Lens is the hinge of this line, and the loss of Lens would force the German Higher Command to prepare for a still bigger retreat. Lens occupies a position of tremendous strength, but what we have done in the case of Vimy Ridge we may repeat elsewhere, and no position can be considered safe under the concentrated rain of shells which we are now able to pour into the German line.

Dangers That Beset Hindenburg.

Public attention is almost exclusively centred on the new phase upon which the fighting has entered. There continues to be a good deal of quiet discussion about the course Von Hindenburg may be expected to pursue in view of the difficulties and dangers with which he finds himself beset. There is almost complete agreement now that it is no part of his plan to stand on the present line in the West. He will go back still further, and almost for a certainty will keep on going back until the line of the Meuse is reached.

Whether he will endeavour to hold on to Western Belgium will depend in great measure on the vigour of the British attack. Similarly it depends on Sir Douglas Haig whether the German retirement on the Meuse can be effected without overwhelming losses or without the retreat being converted into a disastrous rout.

Von Hindenburg will be greatly assisted by the reserve he is understood to have accumulated somewhere in Germany. This force he can throw into action wherever the peril is greatest, seeking by this means to extricate retiring divisions, who otherwise might very easily be overwhelmed. If this is the course he elects to pursue, it savours very much of an attempt to play out time. And there are certainly strong indications that Germany is attaching at this moment greater importance than usual to what may be termed the political aspects of the war.

> If Von Hindenburg can keep his end up throughout the summer without incurring decisive military defeat Berlin evidently hopes that the autumn will find Russia, France, and Italy much more inclined to talk peace than they have shown themselves hitherto.

Von Hindenburg's plans in regard to the East may be subject to modifications. The possibility of a retirement in the East as well as in the West is even spoken of, so anxious is Germany showing herself to prepare the ground for peace in the autumn of the present year.

LOGIERAIT SOLDIER PROMOTED.

Sergeant David Ewen, of the Fife and Forfar Yeomanry, son of Mr James Ewen, Wester Ballechin, Ballinluig, has been promoted to the rank of sergeant-major in recognition of the valuable work he has done in the field. Sergeant-Major Ewen was through the entire Gallipoli campaign. Prior to enlistment he was employed as a gamekeeper

"WE AIM AT A REPUBLIC."

GERMAN SOCIALIST'S OUTBURST.

The democratic restlessness asserting itself in Germany is strongly evidenced in the columns of the latest German papers. According to the Berliner Tageblatt, Herr Ledebour, of the Social Democratic Party, was responsible for the following outburst at a sitting of the Reichstag, which was characterised by a good deal of liveliness:—

"The Chancellor has not appeared today; he is becoming more and more like a veiled statue, and we are in the dark as to what his plans are. The Kaiser is said to have advised the Czar not to oppose the reforms demanded by his people, and the Chancellor tells us that this advice does him credit. Why does Bethmann Hollweg not give the Kaiser the same advice? We are aiming at a Republic, and in a short time our efforts will be crowned by success. (Contradictory cries.)

"The patience of the German people in relation to the Kaiser has truly been marvellous. (Excitement on the right, and cries of 'High Treason.') Herr Ledebour was asked by the President (Dr Kaempf) to desist from any further such expressions."—Berliner Tageblatt.

AUSTRIAN PEACE PROPOSALS.

The Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Count Czernin, when interviewed by a representative of the Vienna Frebdenblatt, gave his opinion of the issue of the Russian Revolution:—

"I cannot claim to prophesy, but if this change of Government in Russia leads the suffering peoples of the Russian Empire to see that the continuation of the war is a crime, and that they, as well as the other Entente Powers, may make an honourable peace with the Central Powers any day, then this terrible slaughter of men will come to an end. It is impossible to destroy us, and we do not wish to entirely destroy others. Our fronts are stronger than ever, and our economic position is safe."

In answer to the question of a peace conference without an armistice, he said:—"I see this as the only way to come to some understanding. For this conference will not affect those who wish to continue the fighting, and it is only as a peace conference that these hundreds of questions which the war has cast up can be discussed. Those who wish for peace must come and talk over plans. If it should prove impossible to bring about union at this conference, the unbroken warfare may continue.

"As soon as our enemies give up the idea of destroying us completely, they will find us ready to begin negotiations—for a peace honourable for us and for them."—Leipziger Neueste Nachrichten.

BERLIN SERVANT SCARCITY.

The lack of household servants is making itself felt very disagreeably in Berlin. Indeed the scarcity is such that out of 100 ladies who wish to engage servants only ten are able to get them. The reason for this is that an enormous number of girls are working on munitions and other war materials, also that the position of waitress in large cafes or hotels is a very favourite occupation and a very remunerative one, owing to the lack of waiters. Another cause for the unwillingness to enter household service is the very much reduced menu which is necessary in all families, and there are many devices and plans resorted to by the housefraus to try to circumvent these enforced rations. At one of the servants' registry offices a country girl from the Schwartzwald with no experience came in search of a situation. A Berlin lady, after going over her references, said she did not think she would be quite suitable. "But, madam, it doesn't depend on whether you would be satisfied with my work or not, for I can guarantee you would be satisfied with what my mother can send me from our farm in the country." The lady immediately saw her chance, and the girl was engaged without further inquiry.—Berliner Tageblatt.

VOLUNTARY ENLISTMENT OF MINERS.

Crusade That Is Not Too Popular.

Hamilton, Saturday Afternoon.

Special inquiries made by our Hamilton representative go to show that while the campaign for the voluntary enlistment of miners is still being prosecuted with vigour throughout the mining districts of Lanarkshire the response to date has only been "fairly satisfactory."

By the present campaign the advocates of voluntary enlistment hope to secure 20,000 young miners for the army, and Lanarkshire's contribution to that total would be 1500. The enlistments to date are far short of the military demands, at all events so far as Lanarkshire is concerned.

The present crusade is not being countenanced by all the agents of the Lanarkshire Miners' Union. There are those who are disposed to think that the "combing out" process previously adopted was accomplishing good results, and that it ought to have been continued rather than that there should be the present reversion to voluntary enlistment. On the other hand, other agents of the union, including Mr David Gilmour, Hamilton, are doing what they can to support Major Wishart and Lieuts. Allan and Rocks (the recruiting officers) at the mass meetings which are being held at the collieries.

If the voluntary effort fails a spirited agitation will be started for the "roping in" by the military authorities of all those men of military age who have found employment in the mines since the date of national registration in August, 1915.

GOLDEN CABBAGES.

Dublin, Saturday.

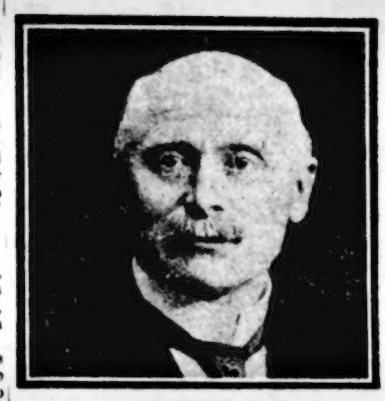
Cabbages and turnips reached high prices in Dublin vegetable market to-day. A load of savoy cabbages sold at 90s, a quotation not reached in Dublin for twenty years. Swede turnips in some cases realised £4 15s per ton.

WHY HOLLAND MUST FOLLOW AMERICA.

TO SAFEGUARD HER INDEPENDENCE AGAINST THE GERMAN MENACE.

By JOHN C. VAN DER VEER, London Editor of the Amsterdam Telegraaf.

(EXCLUSIVE TO "THE POST SUNDAY SPECIAL.")



J. C. Van Der Veer.

IN his historic and epoch-making Address of April 2, President Wilson called Prussian autocracy "the natural foe to liberty." We have said the same in our paper, De Telegraaf, from the commencement of this war. To us it was at the outset clear that the aggressive military power of Germany never could be "our friend." We recollected the menace which our country was constantly threatened from that side, and when the rulers of Berlin started the war, which they during many years had secretly prepared, we realised at once the fate that would overtake Holland if they won. Our attitude was decided accordingly.

In spite of our officially declared neutrality, we openly treated Germany as our enemy and the Allies as our friends. This attitude seemed to many of our friends in Holland risky. But the brave small nations of Belgium and Serbia risked far more, when they, with stout hearts and stern souls, accepted the brutal challenge of their powerful neighbours.

> To slander we paid no heed. It has frequently been said, that we are "in the pay" of Great Britain. A country that fights for right will always draw friends voluntarily to her side. If there has been bribery in this war, it was done by Germany. She has in that way got "friends" in Holland and other neutral countries, and we gladly make her a present of them.

When the Kaiser's hordes invaded Belgium, they also cast the die for Holland. Her independence and integrity are bound up and inseparably connected with those of Belgium. Immediately after German troops marched over the Belgian frontier, the Dutch Army was mobilised and largely massed on our southern frontier. They have remained there since August, 1914, and all that time our little country has kept not less than 400,000 men under arms.

During two and a half years the safety of our country has hung in the balance, and its danger to-day is more acute than ever. We have, alas! pro-Germans who side with our "natural foe." They form, however, an insignificantly small group of noblemen, aristocrats, and worshippers of German kultur at its best. The latter forget that kultur at its worst is predominant in Germany, particularly in Prussia.

We also have commercial men whose conscience is as wide as their pockets, and who care more for profit than for their country's highest and most vital interests. But the overwhelming mass of our people always disliked the Germans on account of their rude and overbearing manners. A German is nicknamed in Holland "mof" (English, "muf"), that word was originally applied to a "boaster" or a "swaggerer" (The Germans have in this war fully deserved that name.)

We have also a class of people who try to maintain a neutral attitude between the two belligerent parties, but they usually criticise the Allies far louder and more severely than our brutal Eastern neighbour.

A Standing Menace.

The fact is undeniable that the maintenance of Holland's independence and integrity requires the defeat of Germany. Her hold on Belgium is a standing menace to our country. Germany will only give up Belgium when forced to do so by the Allies, as she has had already to "evacuate" a large part of French territory. I have never doubted that the Allies will accomplish that happy end. But as this is of such a vital interest to Holland, I sincerely wish that she would yet take a hand in it. To let others fight for our freedom and independence is a sore trial for all Dutchmen, who are still proud of their country's glorious traditions.

A peace imposed by fear and under sufferance of grievous wrongs and humiliations can never raise a nation higher. In that condition Holland, with her emblem of a lion, is to-day more like a bleating lamb, shuddering for the German wolf. Yet, this war gave and still gives Holland the chance of her life, to get rid of a long menace.

Mr Lloyd George once said that Prussia had always been "a bad neighbour." This was all along our experience. She bullied Holland in endless ways. The Rhine navigation was always a source of constant friction. Germany wanted the greatest freedom for her own export trade, while hindering always that of Holland.

German agents have during the war done their best to make trouble in Dutch East India. They were undoubtedly behind the recent rebellion on the east coast of Sumatra. The reason became plain when at the same time articles appeared in the German press asserting that Holland "could not manage her colonies properly." Germany, of course, should manage them for her! The German wolf in a sheep's skin again revealing itself.

Unscrupulous Traders.

It makes me sad, and bitter too, to think that the Allies, fighting for the freedom and independence of every small nation on the Continent, have also to endure so much heavier sacrifices of their best and vigorous manhood because some neutral nations did a roaring business with Germany, and thereby supported her in her unjust, ruthless, and barbarous struggle. It is like treating burglars to supper after they ransacked the neighbouring house and killed or outraged its occupants.

> Neutral people are blamed for that business, which is, however, solely the work of unscrupulous traders, who enriched themselves not only at the cost of wicked Germany, but also at the cost of their own people.

While Germany filled the pockets of some of our and also of Scandinavian commercial men, they, by exporting more foodstuffs to her than their own countries could afford to lose, have actually starved those peoples. Holland produces more foodstuffs than she can possibly consume. Yet to-day masses of our people are hungry and suffer from scarcity of food because so much has been exported to Germany. Neutral countries have, during many months, to a large extent frustrated the perfectly justified British blockade. Things are different now, but the harm has been done, and this sanguinary struggle unnecessarily drawn out!

Now, neutrals have a legal right to sell their produce to any belligerent who pays the highest price. Profit rules their conduct. But it is all the same a sordid business. In a war between right and wrong, morality ought to count with neutrals.

But what has profit-making gained for Holland? While Dutch foodstuffs feed Germany, she, without any scruple, sank numerous Dutch ships, which brought or went to fetch foodstuffs for Holland, to make up the shortage caused by the export to Germany. Intentionally many Dutch ships were sunk with fodder for Dutch cattle, in order to compel our farmers to sell Germany the cattle for which they lack the necessary food. There is always method in German madness.

The Hungry Wolf on the Frontier.

Some of our people also say:—"If we do not feed the brute he will fly at our throat!" That argument is not entirely baseless. So long as Holland fed Germany well she was not threatened with a German invasion. This danger has lately arisen since pressure from within and without compelled our Government to restrict the abnormal export to Germany. Then the hungry wolf appeared on our eastern frontier. Dr P. J. Troelstra, the leader of the Dutch Socialist Party in our Parliament, revealed recently a striking fact. In a speech, delivered at Leeuwarden, in the north of Holland, he stated—"I cannot say what we were told in a secret Session of the Legislative Chamber. But from an unofficial trustworthy source I learned that the Commander-in-Chief of our army had recently given instructions to a divisional commander on our eastern frontier in preparation for an invasion."

Whether this is true or not, Germany will respect Dutch territory only so long as it suits her. In my opinion, an invasion is at present hardly worth her while. She has denuded Holland of foodstuffs to an exhaustive point. Only cattle raids might pay her for an invasion. But even that would not help her hungry millions long.

> But this summer, with the new harvest, the danger of a German invasion may become extremely acute for Holland. And that makes me particularly anxious for our country, which is at present overrun by Germans.

A well-known countryman wrote me a few weeks ago that The Hague is to-day "largely a German town." They abound and influence also the opinion at Rotterdam, where German spies keep their paymasters fully informed about ships going to and coming from Britain. They are undoubtedly responsible for the sinking of many British and Dutch ships, as they were responsible for the fate of Captain Fryatt.

We have the German menace inside as well as outside our country. By following the example of the United States, Holland could yet restore her prestige and safeguard her own future. Dutch pacifists, who advocate an inconclusive peace, are, wittingly or unwittingly, endangering the future of our free nation. Only the destruction of Prussian militarism, the disbandment of the German army and navy, can effectively remove the long menace to our country. Germany must also be compelled to pay so large an indemnity that during many years she cannot devote a pfennig to any military purpose. That is not less in the interest of Holland than of the world.

THE SECRET SUBMARINE

By RIDGWELL CULLUM.

An After the War Story Called by the Author "The Men Who Wrought."

Ruxton welcomes the Prince to Britain.
(A scene from next week's instalment.)

THE BEGINNING OF THE STORY.

Prince Stanislaus Hertzwohl, who perfected the German submarine, gives away the secret of a big submersible to

Ruxton Farlow, a young British Cabinet Minister. Farlow accepts the inventor's offer of a trip on board the constructed vessel, and is shown Germany's great secret arsenal at Borga. The Prince introduces Ruxton as his nephew, "Von Bersac," to Von Salzinger, the military governor of Borga.

Salzinger requests "Von Bersac" to submit himself to the customary examination. The Prince scorns Salzinger's authority, and leaves the arsenal.

Von Salzinger is sent on a private mission to London, and meets Vita, the Prince's daughter, with whom he is in love. Vita discovers that Von Salzinger suspects her father and Ruxton Farlow. Ruxton has induced his father and the Government to construct big submersibles according to the Prince's plans. Ruxton fears for the Prince's safety, and is startled when he sees a newspaper poster announcing "Heavy firing in the Baltic. Mystery Unsolved."

Enemy Movements.

RUXTON purchased a paper and passed on. But his eager eyes scanned the stop press paragraph as he went. It was a report from Copenhagen. It stated that heavy gunfire had been heard off the German coast, and fishermen stated that a German squadron had been seen twenty miles from land engaged in what appeared to be a heavy bombardment of some object in the water. It was also stated that seaplanes had been seen to be dropping bombs on the same object. Another report, from a German source, stated that a portion of the fleet had been engaged in long-range target practice. This was denied in a still further account from the captain of one of the Baltic ferries, who declared that no target had been visible to those on his vessel, which had suddenly found itself in the danger zone, with shells dropping in the water within a radius of a quarter of a mile.

A still later account hinted that the whole thing was an attempt to sink a foreign submarine discovered in the act of espionage.

It was this final paragraph which held Ruxton's attention and permanently altered the whole trend of his thoughts. The affairs discussed at the recent luncheon had been abruptly thrust out of his mind. His final triumph over prejudice and official conservatism seemed to have lost its meaning for the moment. The whole centre of his interest had been completely transferred. He was gazing out across the sea, a grey, dark, troubled autumn sea. A fierce and awe-inspiring picture filled his focus. A squadron of battleships; the hawk-like swooping of great seaplanes; a small, almost indistinct, object bobbing amongst the waves. He remembered his escape from Borga. Was this such an adventure as his? He could not tell. But——

Ruxton hailed a passing taxi, and, giving the man an address in Kensington, he jumped in.

He folded up his paper and thrust it into a side pocket, and, with the sudden change of environment, his thoughts underwent a third development.

Somewhere in the west, there, he knew that a woman was waiting impatiently for his news. He had 'phoned her of his coming, and hinted at his success. Her reply had set every pulse in his body hammering out a reciprocal emotion.

"Of course you have succeeded," she had replied. "The rapidity with which you have done so only the more surely points my original conviction. You cannot fail. I shall be in Kensington until a late hour."

The invitation had been irresistible to a man of Ruxton's temperament. He snatched at it with an almost boyish impulse, determined to lose no moment of communion with this wonderful creature whose attractions had so overwhelmed the youth that was in him.

Mrs Jenkins, a hard-faced lady with a sniff, who had undoubtedly seen "worse" days, had performed her duty as only a superior British char-lady-turned-cook-housekeeper could have possibly performed it. She had regarded Ruxton Farlow on the doorstep of Vita's flat for a few speculative moments. Then she sniffed.

"Name of Farlow, ain't it? She's in."

Then, shuffling down the passage, she thrust her head through the doorway of the sitting-room and sniffed again.

"It's 'im, miss," she announced, and beat a strategical retreat to the back regions of the flat, with the virtuous conviction that she had performed her duty in a manner which might well have been an example to a superior parlour-maid, or even a well-trained footman.

There seemed to be no necessity for greeting between Vita and Ruxton Farlow. For the man it was as if Vita had become a part of his life, as though she were always with him, ready to support him at every turn, ready to lead him on towards those great ideals which were his.

Just now the commonplaces of social intercourse had no meaning for Vita. She drew an armchair from its inevitable place beside the cold fireplace, and faced it towards the window, flinging the meagre cushion aside, so useless to a man's comfort.

"Take that chair," she said, with a warm smile of welcome. "You may smoke, too; I'd like you to. And there is refreshment on the table beside you." Then she seated herself down upon a low chair in the vicinity. "Now tell me," she added, as Ruxton flung himself into the doubtful armchair with a contented sigh.

"Tell you?" he returned, with a smile in his dark eyes.

Then for some moments he was silent, contemplating the perfect oval of her face, the masses of her red-gold hair; the wonderful grace of the exquisitely clad body. But under his gaze her warm grey eyes were hidden. She felt the ardour of the man's regard, nor did it leave her unmoved.

"There ought to be a lot to tell you—there is a lot," he said presently, in a half-abstracted manner. "And yet——"

"Begin at the beginning," she helped him, and his eyes were caught in the upward glance of the wonderful grey, so eager, so clear, and yet so full of simple purpose.

"The beginning?" Ruxton smiled. "It makes it the harder." He shook his head. "No man can tell a woman the beginning. There is no beginning. It just comes along without his knowing it, and in a moment he is caught in mid-tide and borne along."

Vita's eyes were gazing up into the strong face in some doubt. She was demanding the story of his success. Something she beheld in the man's dark eyes made her lower her own, and she found herself powerless to urge him further.

"I may be mad, I may be dreaming," he cried, suddenly springing to his feet and confronting the woman he loved with eyes grown darker with the sudden intensity of his feelings. "I may be mad to risk for ever losing a companionship which has become so great a part of my life, so vital to my whole existence. I may be dreaming to believe, or hope, that my longings can ever reach fulfilment. But I cannot help it. It is not in me to act otherwise. The soul-mate of a man either belongs to him, or is denied to him, as the great controlling forces ordain. For thirty-five years I have walked through life alone. I have seen no woman whose companionship I desired, or could desire, during all that time. Never once in all that time have the soul-fires in me been stirred. Never once have I longed for the warm heart of a woman to beat in unison with mine. Then came a night—a mentally black and dreary night — when the work seemed desolate, and existence a condition almost intolerable in the future. The darkest thoughts of my life passed through my hot brain that night; darker even than the thoughts during the darkest days of the great war. That moment was the one that preceded dawn—my dawn.

"Ah, Vita," he went on, with deeper, more vibrant meaning. "That dawn came like the miracle of every other dawn.

"But, unlike the dawn which heralds mere sunrise, it heralded an eternity of beautiful dreams untouched by the bitternesses and contentions of the human day. It came with a voice out of the moonlit darkness. The voice of a woman, who, within a space of time almost negligible, had changed the despairing blackness of night to a—wonderful dawn."

Ruxton turned from her and began to pace the narrow length of the room. It was an unstudied expression of the fierce fire which had leapt up in his passionate, Slavonic heart. Vita's eyes followed his movements, fascinated, yet unseeing, in the tumult which he had roused within her. Almost breathless she waited while he went on.

He paused in his walk, and abruptly flung out his arms.

"I can see her now, a figure of perfect beauty, regal, splendid in the silvery moonlight. The light playing upon her marbled features, finding reflection in eyes wide with sincerity, truth, and passion. Vita, Vita, I can never tell you all that picture inspired in me. Suddenly I knew what life meant. Up till then I had merely existed. Life had had no meaning for me, but the necessity of working out that simple duty of effort which belongs to us all. With your coming everything changed. Life became at once that superb thing of which the dreamer speaks. Where before only the black shadows of a drear depression had been, at once life became flooded with a golden light. It was beautiful, beautiful."

The woman's wondering gaze was now frankly held by the passionate eyes regarding her. She had no power to withdraw it; she had no desire to withdraw it. Her cheeks were flushed. Her lips were parted, revealing the pearly whiteness of her teeth framed in their ruby setting, so full, so ripe.

"But this is madness," she breathed without conviction. It was the burden of her feelings seeking expression. She leant forward in her chair, her hands so tightly clasped that the blood was pressed back from her delicate finger-tips, and the simple rings dug hard into the tender flesh.

"Madness? Madness?" Ruxton drew nearer. He laughed as he echoed the word. It was the inconsequent laugh which is merely an audible expression, and possesses no meaning. "If it is madness let me be mad. Madness? Then I never want sanity again. Love is madness, Vita, a madness that is ordained, and without it love can never be love. The man who can pause to reason does not know love. He can never love. Leave reason and sanity for the cold affairs of life. Love can know no check from such a course. That is how I love you, Vita. I want you—you. I want you always with me, near me. I want you so that our life together is all one. You must be part of me. You must be me. You speak of the beginning. There is no beginning, just as there can be no end. Love is all, everything. Vita—Vita——"

He had bent down from his great height. He had seized the woman's tightly-clasped hands. He had raised them with gentle force, and, as though caught by the magnetism of all the love he had endeavoured to express, she rose to her feet, and permitted him to hold the prisoner before him.

But now with his final appeal the tension seemed to relax. She stood there for a moment, silent. Then she sighed faintly. It was as though she had awakened from some beautiful dream. The flush on her oval cheeks lessened, and the light in her eyes changed unmistakably. The man seemed to become suddenly aware of the change, and a note of apprehension sounded in his voice as he repeated his appeal.

"Vita—Vita," he cried, with a passion of yearning in the words.

The woman shook her head, but her hands remained captive.

"No, no! It can't be. It is too beautiful, too good to be real. Not in this life. This life in which there is no peace—nothing that is—beautiful. Besides——"

"Besides?"

Again Vita shook her head. This time she gently released her hands. Ruxton contemplated her. Something in her manner was restoring his control of himself.

"We cannot—we dare not think of—ourselves now," Vita went on. "A time may come when—but not now. We must not pause—nor step aside."

Each word appeared to be an effort. It was as though she were fighting temptation in a forlorn hope. Ruxton saw it. He understood, and his whole Slavonic passion took fire again. Quite suddenly his two great hands fell upon the woman's rounded shoulders, and his strong fingers held the soft flesh firmly. Her face was turned up to his in a startled fashion, wondering but unresentful. His passion-lit eyes gazed deeply down into hers.

"Vita, my Vita, these protests are not you. They are the brave and loyal spirit seeking to abnegate those selfish claims which in my case are irresistible. You—you will love me. You do love me! I can see it in your eyes—now. God, was there ever so wonderful a sight for man? Tell me. Forget all else and tell me of it. I am hungry—starving for the love you can give me. I will not wait. I dare not. I love you with all that is in me. I love you beyond all earthly duties and cares. Tell me all that lies behind your beautiful eyes, hidden deep down in your dear woman's heart."

Vita was powerless. She was utterly powerless to resist the torrent of the love that leapt from him and overwhelmed her. All her protests died within her. She imperceptibly drew closer to him, and, in a moment, she lay crushed in his arms, her face hidden against his broad shoulder, the perfume of her hair intoxicating him still further. His head bent down against it and his lips rained caresses upon it. Then, in a second, one hand was raised and he lifted her face from its hiding-place so that his eyes gazed full upon it. Then, lower his face bent towards hers, and in a ravishing silence their lips met, and held for long, long moments.

The evening shadows were softly drawing their veil about them. The plain little room had lost its crudeness of outline. Ruxton was seated in the armchair which had been set for him, and Vita was crouching curled up on the cushion on the floor beside him. Ruxton was smoking now. He had been smoking for some minutes. Vita was listening to the voice she loved, and occasionally interrupted it with a question or comment.

He had just completed the story of his success, and her delight in it had held the woman forgetful of those things she had yet to tell him.

But now, in the silence which had followed, a flood of recollection spread over her. She searched for a beginning with a brave desire to reveal as little of the disquiet which haunted her as possible.

"I have no such success to recount," she said at last, gazing up at the strong face above her with a tender smile of confidence. "I have heard from Von Salzinger, as I knew I should after that evening in the car."

"Ah!"

Ruxton laid a hand firmly over one of Vita's, which rested on the arm of the chair. It was a gesture which had in it all a strong man's promise of protection. To Vita it conveyed a sensation of exquisite reassurance.

"Oh, it all seems so futile," she cried, with a sudden helplessness. "I mean when you think of the terrible Secret Service which seems to know everything. No one in England except ourselves knows of such a person as Valita von Hertzwohl. As for my home, only my father knows that. I have kept it secret even from you. And yet this Von Salzinger comes to England and—calls upon me. The refuge I had so carefully prepared for my father in case of emergency is no refuge at all. I believe I am terrified."

"Tell me more." Ruxton leant forward in his chair. All satisfaction at the thought of his own affairs had died out of his expressive eyes. They were full of concern and sympathy for the woman he loved. "Where is this home? I had better know—now."

Vita smiled tenderly. His trifling emphasis on the final word helped to banish something of her fears. It was the reminder of the bond between them.

"It is the sweetest of aged Elizabethan farms in Buckinghamshire. It is called Redwithy Farm, and is less than two miles from Wednesford. It is the most romantically beautiful place you could find anywhere, small, but—I love it." She sighed deeply. "I was out riding when he called. I had no alternative but to see him."

"Why?" The man's earnest gaze was steady. His alert mind was seeking something, nor did he know the nature of what he sought.

"Because Vassilitz had admitted him in my absence. He had no right to, but—he did. I cannot—but it doesn't matter now. I simply dared not refuse to see him, so I affected cordiality and—gave him tea."

Ruxton made an impatient movement.

"Who is Vassilitz? What is he?" he demanded in a level tone.

"My butler. He is a Pole—a German Pole. All my servants are Poles. I have known them all my——"

"Ah. And you marvel at the power of the Secret Service?"

The gravity of her lover's tone startled Vita. But she could not credit his suspicion.

"But I have known them all my life. They are devoted to me and mine."

"Then I should know them no longer. But tell me of Von Salzinger. He has found you out. It does not much matter how. The purpose of his visit. That is the important matter."

It was some moments before Vita replied. A fresh terror was slowly taking possession of her. After a while, however, she pulled herself together with an effort.

"He told me it was to see me. I have told you that years ago he made love to me. He pretended his visit was—to see me."

"Pretended?"

A furious jealousy was suddenly taking possession of Ruxton. Only by a powerful self-control was he keeping it under. Vita understood by the tone of his inquiry, and hastily sought to set his doubts at rest.

"Oh, but he is a loathsome creature." Then she turned to him and looked up into his dark eyes. "Ruxton, dear," she appealed, "never, never, never believe anything but that I loathe and fear that man."

The demon of jealousy died out of the man's eyes and he smiled.

"I never will believe otherwise, Vita," he reassured her. "Now tell me."

After that Vita told her story briefly and simply. But at its conclusion she asseverated her conviction emphatically.

"He was lying. It was patent to me. If he desired to make love to me it was incidental. He came because he and the rest of them are in hot pursuit of the Borga affair. He is over here to fight to retrieve the position from which we know he has fallen. What they will do, what they can do—here—I cannot imagine. But they are so subtle—so subtle."

Again that haunting fear had come back to her eyes. Ruxton pressed her hand gently.

"I think you are wrong, dear," he said firmly. "I am convinced his visit to you was—for you." Ruxton's eyes had grown darker, and his brows drew together. Apprehension was stirring, but it was apprehension for Vita. "You must not receive him again. I do not think it safe for you down there. I should give the place up—temporarily. Anyway it can be no safe refuge for your——"

He broke off and sat up with a start. His caressing hand was drawn from hers with a suddenness that communicated some further anxiety to the woman. She watched him, searching his face while his hands groped in the side pockets of his coat.

"What is it?" she demanded, with a sharp intake of breath.

For reply Ruxton withdrew a newspaper folded, and held it out to her, pointing at the stop press paragraph on the outside fold.

"Read it," he said urgently.

She stood up and moved to the window for better light. He watched her while she read.

"Can it be——" he demanded, leaving his sentence unfinished.

Vita looked up at last. Her eyes were wide. A stunned look was in them. Her parched lips moved.

"Do you think it's father?" she asked. "Do you think he has got away?" Then, with a sudden appealing gesture—"Oh, say you do."

The Crouch of the Tiger.

Johann Stryj had departed as silently and undemonstratively as he had come. The chief spy was a born master of his craft. His whole air of simple inoffensiveness left nothing to be desired.

Von Salzinger admitted these things to himself, in spite of the morose venom which the man's report upon Dorby had inspired.

This venomous mood, however, was not directed against his helper. It was inspired by his realisation that his own purpose had been made more difficult of achievement. He had discovered that his efforts were not directed against private individuals, but against the British naval authority.

Thus he sat back in the largest and most comfortable chair in his private sitting-room, with his trunk-like legs supported upon a smaller chair, and divided his savage mood between outlining the report he must make to Berlin and the devouring of the contents of a large bier-stein which stood on the table within reach.

He had nearly succeeded in achieving his double purpose, and incidentally relieving his unpleasant mood, when a diversion occurred in the form of a telephone summons from the hotel office below.

A visitor for him. Name of Von Berger. Would he see him at once?

Yes, Ludwig von Salzinger would be pleased to see him at once. This is what he 'phoned down. To himself he cursed bitterly in homely Prussian adjectives.

Von Berger was the last person he wanted to see in England until the outcome of his work in England was assured. This man's coming suggested all sorts of vague and disquieting thoughts. With Von Berger in England he would no longer be a free agent. He would be forced to yield the conduct of affairs to another—a man whom he felt had neither friendliness or mercy for any soul on earth. He was more than disquieted. He was awed, and not a little apprehensive.

The entrance of Von Berger was characteristic of the frigid, unyielding aspect he displayed at all times. No one could have encountered this personality and detected one soft spot in the whole of its make-up.

He entered the room with cold assurance. He possessed himself of the chair which had supported Von Salzinger's legs, and occupied it without invitation. He indicated the arm-chair beside which Von Salzinger was standing, with the certainty of authority. And the lesser man sat in it, obedient to his visitor's lightest command. There was no greeting between them.

Von Berger's keen eyes searched the room. For a moment they rested upon the door which shut off the other's bedroom.

"That door?" he demanded.

"My bedroom, Excellency."

"Ah! Admission that way?"

"I keep the outer door locked."

The cold eyes surveyed the windows. They were closed. Then his regard came back to the heavy square face of his host.

"Von Hertzwohl has—escaped."

There was no emphasis; no heat of any sort. The lips moved, and the pronouncement was made. That was all.

Von Salzinger started. Then a half-smile grew in his eyes. In a vague way he realised that the Prince's flight was a triumph and vindication for himself. But his momentary satisfaction was damped by the cold voice of his visitor.

"On receipt of your report that you had discovered the identity of the man who visited Borga, vigilance was redoubled. For obvious reasons we had no desire to arrest him until more definite news was received. He had no suspicion that he was—observed. Then, suddenly he disappeared. We picked up his tracks. He had escaped by sea in his submersible. Our squadron very nearly effected his capture. However, he escaped. He must have received news from—here. He is probably making for—here. Have you any additional report to make?"

Von Salzinger cleared his throat. He sat up. The veins stood out upon his square temples. His momentary satisfaction was completely gone. In its place was a sickening apprehension that his enemy was slipping through his fingers, and in doing so it seemed more than likely he might contrive to make his, Von Salzinger's, position even less favourable with Berlin.

"Yes, Excellency. I was about to write one when I received the telephone message of your arrival."

"Let me have the details quickly and briefly."

"In the yards at Dorby at Yorkshire, owned by Farlow, Son and Farlow—Ruxton Farlow is a partner—certain portions of them have been taken over by the British Admiralty. But these portions are not being used for naval purposes. They are constructing a new type of mercantile submersible from foreign plans, which have only very recently come to England. The submersible portion of these vessels is the principle perfected by Hertzwohl in our naval submarines. The rest of them is an entirely new design. But the complete boat is the design of—one man."

"Hertzwohl."

"That is how I read it."

"The object of naval authority in these yards is——"

"Security and secrecy."

"Which proves the plans have either been stolen or traitorously acquired, and they fear interference and—reprisal."

Von Salzinger nodded.

"And this information?" Von Berger's inquiry came with even colder incisiveness.

"We have men working in the shops. We have one man in the drawing office. All hands, even the clerical staff of these departments, work under oath of secrecy, and naval discipline." Von Salzinger smiled contemptuously. "This, however, does not impede our flow of information. The man in the drawing office has discovered that the plans are shortly to be photographed by the naval authorities. Further, they are testing a new light which seems to correspond with our new U-Rays, which was found to be defective by us, and the vital parts of which Hertzwohl removed on his last visit to Borga. If this light should prove to be identical with the U-rays it suggests a further conspiracy. Hertzwohl contrived its faultiness himself, and seized the opportunity of removing the vital parts of the—only—lamp we possessed. It suggests that the whole thing was carefully planned and carried out by—Hertzwohl."

The only sign from Von Berger was a curious flicker of the eyelids. The unyielding expression of his keen face never varied for one moment.

"This man Farlow—Ruxton Farlow?"

Von Salzinger shook his head.

"For the moment he is beyond our reach. He is a Minister in the British Cabinet."

"Yes."

For some moments neither spoke. Von Salzinger watched this man whom he feared more than any man in Berlin. He was wondering at the activity behind those cold eyes.

Von Berger did not leave him long in doubt.

"It may be possible to destroy those plans—before they are copied," he said. "If they have already been traced, it will still be a proper step. They may even have neglected to trace them—these English. I must see Stryj at once. You will telephone him. Not now," as Von Salzinger rose with alacrity to obey. "There is another matter to be dealt with first. Hertzwohl has got away. He must be silenced. He must be punished. If he is in England—of which I have no doubt, he would be even less safe elsewhere—he is to be run to earth, and his power for further mischief must be—cut off. You understand."

Von Salzinger's eyes were full of meaning as he nodded, but there was no fraction of change in the other's.

Von Berger drew a notebook from his pocket, and turned some odds and ends of papers over. Finally he selected one.

He held it out, and his level eyes forced Von Salzinger's till the latter felt that the remotest secrets could be penetrated by their cold intensity.

"You know that place?" he inquired.

Von Salzinger read—"Redwithy Farm, Wednesford, Bucks."

He drew a deep breath. At the sound of it Von Berger's eyelids flickered.

"Yes." Von Salzinger's eyes were slowly raised to the other's.

"Quite so. You visited there the other day. For what purpose?"

"Information." There was a flush in the man's fleshy cheeks.

He loathed and feared those searching eyes.

"Was your visit productive?"

Von Salzinger shrugged.

"No."

"We will visit there together, and must make our visit productive. Vassilitz will expect us there to-night. If Hertzwohl is in England we must find him through the Princess Valita. Now send for Stryj."

Do not miss the continuation of this story next week.

SCOTTISH PERSONALITIES IN THE PUBLIC EYE

By Our Special Commissioner.

Ailsa Student's Success at Eton.

The Newcastle Scholarship, one of the highest classical distinctions at Eton, has just been gained by Mr J. W. Moir, of Ailsa, son of the County Clerk of Clackmannanshire. I am told the distinguished student, who has carried off all the premier honours of the famous school, is about to join the Scots Greys.

President Wilson's Scots Blood.

It is rather interesting to observe that the two foremost personalities in America have Scottish connections. General Teddy Roosevelt, for example, claims kinship with the ancient house of the Douglases of Tilquhillie, while President Wilson is of Glasgow extraction. His grandmother was the daughter of a Mr Robert Williamson, a Cameronian worthy, and a well-known Glasgow citizen of his day and generation. Mr Wilson, I may add, is nearly related to Mr Patrick Keith, clerk to the Hamilton School Board, and the Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lang, the present Archbishop of York.

American Lady's Double Role.

Lafayette.

The best tribute which has been paid to Mrs Bruce Milne in her double role of artiste and organiser is the fact that she has had requests from some of the largest cities in England to cross the Border and help the Sassenachs to enlarge their contributions to war charities. This talented American cousin of ours is meantime organising concerts in various towns in Scotland, and her appearance at Aberfeldy is being eagerly looked forward to by the good folks of the Perth township. Colonel Stirling of Keir, the recently-elected member of Parliament for West Perthshire, has promised to preside, and the genial Provost Haggart, Aberfeldy, is also interesting himself prominently in order to make the entertainment the success it promises to be.

Centenarian's Four Minister Sons.

Mrs Dewar, a well-known Crieff lady, has now entered upon her 100th year, but is still in possession of all her faculties. I understand that this lady is a native of the Lochtayside district. No fewer than four of her sons are ministers of the Church of Scotland, one of these being the Rev. Peter Dewar, St Ninian's Parish, North Bute. Mrs Dewar has been a widow for a long number of years.

Popular Glasgow Merchant.

Mr James M'Intyre, J.P., who is a most popular member of the West of Scotland grocer fraternity, has been re-elected as the president of the Glasgow Grocers' and Provision Merchants' Benevolent Fund. He is particularly well known in the Parliamentary Road vicinity, where he has successfully carried on business for many years, and many of his admirers in that area have before now wanted him to stand for City Council honours.

An Authority on Thrift.

One of the features of the war savings movement has been the wonderful success of the schools section, the convener of which is the popular rector of Peebles High School, Mr Geo. C. Pringle.

Mr Pringle is a man of many interests, being, amongst other things, secretary of the Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association and editor of the Secondary Teachers' Journal. Mr Pringle has had three sons in the army.

Glasgow Lady's Effort.

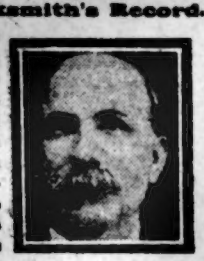
Lafayette.

Among Glasgow's lady war workers—and they are numbered by thousands—Mrs D. H. L. Young is taking a leading part in the formation of a Scottish Branch of the Canadian War Contingent. This agency has been designed to help the hospitals in the land of the Maple Leaf. Her husband is working morning, noon, and night to lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes of National Service.

The First Woman Colonel.

When we read of the splendid way in which our army has been aided towards victory by our efficient railway organisation behind the lines we remember with gratitude the work of that shrewd Scotsman General Sir Eric Geddes, who is now Director of Transports. It was he who, with the approval and confidence of Mr Lloyd George, quickly effected a marvellous transformation in our railway and transport arrangements. It is not generally known that Mrs Chalmers Watson, who commands the legion of women now serving the army in France, is Sir Eric's sister. She is the first woman to possess a rank equivalent to that of Colonel. Another member of this talented family whom the war has made famous is General Geddes, Assistant Director-General of Recruiting, who in peace time was a professor of anatomy at the M'Gill University, Canada.

Village Blacksmith's Record.



Longfellow has immortalised the splendid qualities of the village blacksmith, and the gentleman whose features you see here has splendidly upheld the traditions of the craftsman. He is Parish Councillor John Agnew, of Ferniegair, and his record of public usefulness is a notable one. He has been chairman of Hamilton Parish Council, and probably would still hold that post but for the fact that he is a stickler for the policy that honours should go round.

Prominent in Our New Ally's Councils.

Mention of Ferniegair, by-the-by, brings to my recollection the fact that it is a native of this Lanarkshire village who holds the post of Labour Minister in America's War Government. The father of Mr William Bauchop Wilson, worked as a miner at Ferniegair Colliery. During the "big strike" the family were evicted from their home, and they went off to America. Young Wilson, although he began life underground at nine years of age, showed himself a man of grit and gumption, and quickly became a respected Labour leader, and was elected a member of Congress in 1906.

A Buteshire Event.

I hear that the Marchioness of Bute has consented to perform the opening ceremony at the Buteshire "free gift sale," to be held in August next within the historic walls of Rothesay Castle. The event, promoted by a number of county organisations, is in aid of the Red Cross funds.

Has Entertained 5000 Wounded Boys.

No one has wrought more enthusiastically for our wounded Tommies than Councillor David Wardle, who has represented the Fairfield Ward in the Town Council of Glasgow for a number of years. It has been his constant endeavour to cheer and uplift the soldiers in the Merryflatts Hospital, and it is a tribute to his work as an organiser that no fewer than five thousand wounded have been entertained during the past sixteen months. Mr Wardle hails from London, and has an army of friends in the shipbuilding district of Govan.

Mr Boyd Cable's "Hymn of Hate" Story and a Sequel.

The recent article by Mr Boyd Cable in "The Post Sunday Special" on the German "Hymn of Hate" has been productive of an effective reply in an altogether unique piece of programme writing. Mr Grace, L.R.A.M., bandmaster of the 3d Battalion Royal Scots, saw the article, and, as he was in possession of a copy of Mayerhoff's explosion, he at once conceived the idea of writing a reply to it that would be characteristic of the way Tommy treats performances of the "Hymn of Hate" by his adversary in the trench across the way. The band played subject and answer at a concert in the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, last Sunday night, and Mr Grace was warmly applauded for his effusion. Taking the Hymn itself as his text, Mr Grace has worked against its most outstanding phrases the songs with which Tommy meets the Germans' efforts as he gutturals through the Hymn, while the war of the guns and the rattle of the shell is also effectively introduced. The composition forms an altogether interesting commentary on the mentality of the two sides ranged in arms against each other.

Mr Grace's New Band.

Mr Grace, who recently scored a descriptive musical picture of the battle of Ypres, is now working up his second band for the battalion since the war began. With the exception of one or two "old hands," who are employed in drill instruction during the day, but are available for special purposes, his complement is at present made up of youths of eighteen and under. Nevertheless they gave a very creditable performance of a programme that included such exacting music as Mendelssohn's "Ruy Blas" overture and excerpts from Grieg's works, and Elgar's "Carillon. It is interesting to note that, besides playing for other charities, Mr Grace amassed £1300 on behalf of benefit funds of the regiment.

Minister Runs Cinema Show

A Baptist minister running a cinema show! This was one of the duties of the Rev. A. T. Richardson, of Kirkcaldy, during several months' service with the Y.M.C.A. at the front. Mr Richardson has since raised £320 for war funds by the relation in lectures of his experiences.

A Daughter of the Navy.

The wife of Commander James Ogilvy Dalgleish, of the Royal Navy, has just given birth to a daughter. Mrs Dalgleish will be remembered as Miss Guinevere Kennedy, whose father and mother are well known and highly respected in North Lancashire. Her sailor husband is a grandson of the late Captain James Ogilvy Dalgleish of Woodburne, Fife.

Photo by Lafayette.

The Lady Bountiful of Garelochhead.

The gift of £1000 in War Loan Stock to the Standon U.F. Church by Mrs Gibson, Greenhill, Standon, reminds me that the Gibson family have a fine record for liberality to the Garelochhead villages. As those people who have been brought up in the country well know, one of the greatest drawbacks is the want of suitable hall accommodation. This, at anyrate, was the case with the beautiful little village at the head of the Gareloch until Mrs Gibson gifted it the compact building which is known as the Gibson Hall. The Standon U.F. Church, by the way, is the envy of the majority of churches in the denomination, as this is the second gift of £1000 received in recent years.

A Prime Favourite With Munition Workers

Mr James Frame, Cambuslang, is a popular figure among the munition workers of the West. After fourteen years as chief engineer of the Clyde Bridge Steel Company (now Messrs David Colville & Sons, Ltd.), he leaves to fill a lucrative post with a well-known firm on the East Coast. To mark their respect the workers in the Clyde Bridge establishment have just presented him with War Saving Certificates to the value of £50.

HOW HOSPITALS TREAT CATARRH AND DEAFNESS

SOME GOOD COMMON-SENSE ADVICE TO CHRONIC SUFFERERS.

By *ALICE LANDLES, Certified Nurse.*

As a direct result of the heavy and heat-producing winter diet, nasal, throat, stomach, or intestinal catarrh, bowel congestion, "liverishness," biliousness, dyspepsia, irritability and languor are especially prevalent at this season. Even slight catarrhal inflammation and mucous will frequently close the Eustachian tubes, which connect the inner ear with the throat, and this stoppage causes "head noises," headaches, insomnia, and nervous troubles. The ears often hum, sing or buzz, exactly as when the outer atmospheric pressure is stopped by holding the hands tightly to them. (Try this.) Next, mucous accumulates in the tympanic cavity, and, if long neglected, temporary or even permanent complete deafness may result. To immediately correct any form of catarrh, try the marvellous solvent and eliminative properties of ordinary *alkia saltrates*, the refined deposits of certain natural curative medicinal waters, well known amongst physicians, and obtainable at small cost from any chemist. The usually prescribed dose is one level teaspoonful dissolved in a tumbler of water, taken daily. The pleasant-tasting and blood-purifying saltrated water quickly stimulates even the most torpid liver, flushes out clogged kidneys, and cleanses all impurities from the entire system, with the result that any trace of catarrhal deafness, mucous accumulation, or similar symptoms must surely and permanently disappear within a very few days.—A. L.

LEADING THEATRICAL LIGHTS IN SCOTLAND THIS WEEK.

(1) HILDA TREVELYAN, in "A Kiss for Cinderella," at Edinburgh Lyceum; (2) FRANK FREEMAN, in "Romance," at Her Majesty's, Dundee; (3) QUEENIE LEIGHTON, at the Dundee King's; (4) CLARA BUTTERWORTH, in "Young England," at the Glasgow King's; (5) GEORGE GRAVES, in "Kafe of Bond Street"; and (6) SONIA SEAL, at the Glasgow Pavilion.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
6.45—TWICE NIGHTLY—9.0.
FRED KARNO presents
His Latest Revue Production, entitled
"£ S. D."
An Economical Study in Three Columns.
Cast includes—SYD WALKER, MOORE MERRIOTT, EMILY STEVENS, KITTY COLLINSON, FRED JERRIS, CONNIE EMERALD.
VARIETY
MATINEE TUESDAY, 2.30.
Box Office, 10.30 to 5.30 and 6.30 to 9.30.
'Phone 3731 Douglas.

COLISEUM,
GLASGOW.
6.55—TWICE NIGHTLY—9.
THE IRISH PLAYERS,
RINALDO, THE MOUNTFORDS HARRY FORD, WATERS & MORRIS,
PIERCE & ROSLYN.
Box Office, 11 to 4—6 to 9.30 p.m.
'Phones—South 230, Central 1501.

LA SCALA,
GLASGOW.
MON., TUES., WED., 16th, 17th, 18th April.
"ON THE BANKS OF ALLAN WATER."
Based on the Well-Known Song.
Beautiful Scenes—Mountains, Glens, Rushing Water.
"A SOCIAL CUB."
Triangle Comedy, featuring BOBBIE VERNON.
THURS., FRI., SAT., 19th, 20th, 21st April.
"THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME."
From the Novel by Nat Gould.
"THE DANGER GIRL."
Triangle Comedy.

THEATRE ROYAL,
GLASGOW.
MONDAY, April 16th, 1917, 6 Nights Only at 7.30.
Mr FRANK WEATHERSBY'S COMPANY in
"DEATH OR GLORY BOYS,"
A STIRRING MILITARY DRAMA.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
DUNDEE.
MONDAY, April 16th, for Six Nights, at 7. SATURDAY MATINEE, 2.15.
MURRAY KING AND CHARLES CLARA
(By Arrangement with Miss Doris Keane).
ROMANCE.
The Most Beautiful Love Story Ever Written.
Box Office Open. 'Phone 1919.

KING'S THEATRE,
DUNDEE.
TWICE NIGHTLY—7 and 9.
First-Class Novelties.
THE ROMANESCA QUARTETTE,
Vocal and Instrumental Act.
LEACH LA QUINLAN TRIO,
The Latest Aerial Surprise.
VASEY & RAMSEY, WILFRED BURNAND,
TOM & NEIL, DAPHNE WYNNE.
QUEENIE LEIGHTON, the Popular Comedienne.
Box Office, 11 to 4, 6.15 to 10. 'Phone 1930.

LA SCALA,
'PHONE 384. 30 MURRAYGATE, DUNDEE.
MONDAY, April 16th, 1917,
FOR THREE DAYS ONLY—
HENRY AINLEY
IN
"SOWING THE WIND."
THURSDAY, April 19th, 1917,
FOR THREE DAYS ONLY—
CLEO RIDGLEY
IN
"THE HOUSE OF THE GOLDEN WINDOWS."
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE—2.30 to 10.15.
Stalls, 7d; Circle, 1s 2d (Unreserved).
Boxes, 5s 8d and 8s 4d (Reserved).
NOTICE—ALL NEXT WEEK.
PARTS 1 and 2 of the LATEST OFFICIAL WAR FILMS,
"SONS OF OUR EMPIRE."
Programmes Now on Sale.

SHAND'S PICTURE HOUSE,
SHEPHERD'S LOAN, DUNDEE.
ALL THIS WEEK.
CHARLES CHAPLIN in
"BEHIND THE SCREEN."
A Mutual-Chaplin.
MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY.
Metro Wonderplay, "THE MYSTERY OF CRADLESBOUGH," in 5 Acts.
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY.
PAULINE FREDERICK in
"THE WORLD'S GREAT SNARE."

ELECTRIC THEATRE,
NETHERGATE DUNDEE.
Manager, ... T. PENNYCOOK.
CONTINUOUS, 2.30 to 10.30.
SHOWING, MON., TUES. and WED., April 16, 17, and 18.
KING BAGGOT in
"TEMPTATION."
Produced by M'Rae Webster, in 3 Reels.
Also, "THE OLD SIN,"
Cameo Feature, in 4 Reels.
SHOWING, THUR., FRI., and SAT., April 19, 20, and 21.
GIOVANNI SPANO, Italy's Greatest Actor, in
"THE UNKNOWN POWER"
in 3 Reels.
Also, THE LAW'S DECREE,
Another Cameo Winner, in 4 Reels.
Coming Shortly—"Broadwest's" Great Masterpiece,
FOR FRANCE (in 4 Reels).

VICTORIA, VICTORIA ROAD, DUNDEE.
Continuous, 7 to 10.30. Saturday, 7 and 8.
MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY.
An Extraordinary Stirring Drama,
PASQUALE.
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY.
BOBBIE THE REVUE GIRL.
Also Charlie Chaplin in "THE PAWNSHOP."

Mr Robertson's New Appeal.

The boys at the front have heard a rumour that the cash has not been coming in too freely of late for genial John Robertson's "Thick Black" Fund. Accordingly some of them have clubbed together and sent home £5 as a contribution. Now Mr Robertson has issued a fresh appeal from the Miners' Offices, Hamilton. "Let us see to it," he says, "that no soldier goes without a smoke of his favourite brand.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE.

X INDICATES MATCH OFF.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

Airdrieonians,	1	Ayr United,	0
Clyde,	2	St. Mirren,	0
Dundee,	0	Motherwell,	2
Hibernian,	0	Celtic,	1
Kilmarnock,	4	Falkirk,	1
Morton,	3	Dumbarton,	1
Queen's Park,	4	Hamilton Acad.,	2
Raith Rovers,	3	Partick Thistle,	1

WESTERN LEAGUE.

Abercorn,	6	Renton,	1

WESTERN CUP.

Stevenston United,	1	Johnstone,	0

DUMBARTONSHIRE CUP.

Vale of Leven,	0	Clydebank,	5

INTER-COUNTY LEAGUE.

Dumbarton Harp,	4	Albion Rovers,	0

FIFE CUP.

East Fife,	2	Dunfermline,	0

CARDENER CUP.

Bathgate,	x	Armadale,	x

FRIENDLY MATCHES.

Rangers,	3	Army Select,	1
Cowdenbeath,	5	Hearts,	1
Arthurlie,	3	Q.P. Strollers,	2

SCOTTISH JUNIOR CUP SEMI-FINAL.

Cambuslang Rangers,	0	Renfrew Juniors,	3

N.-E. JUNIOR CUP SEMI-FINAL.

Parkhead,	3	Petershill,	1

GLASGOW JUNIOR CONSOLATION CUP—Replay.

Perthshire,	3	Shettleston,	2
Maryhill,	1	Vale of Clyde,	0

GLASGOW JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Clydebank Juniors,	2	Bellshill Athletic,	2
Benburb,	1	Glencairn,	2
Larkhall Thistle,	x	Strathclyde,	x
Roy Roy,	0	Pollok,	6

SCOTTISH JUNIOR LEAGUE.

St. Anthony's,	3	Bedlay Juniors,	0
Burnbank Athletic,	3	Kilsyth Emmet,	0
Port-Glasgow Juniors,	x	Cathkin,	x
Kilsyth Rangers,	x	Glenboig Cam.,	x
Thorntonbank,	x	Neilston Victoria,	x
Croy Celtic,	x	Yoker Athletic,	x

RENFREWSHIRE CONSOLATION CUP.

St. Mirren Juniors,	3	Port-Glasgow Corinth.,	0

ENGLISH LEAGUE.

Lancashire Section.

Blackpool,	0	Preston North End,	0
Burnley,	4	Blackburn Rovers,	1
Bury,	0	Oldham Athletic,	1
Port Vale,	0	Manchester City,	0
Liverpool,	6	Stockport County,	0
Manchester United,	1	Stoke,	0
Rochdale,	5	Bolton Wanderers,	1
Southport Central,	0	Everton,	1

Midland Section.

(Subsidiary Competition.)

Barnsley,	0	Rotherham County,	0
Bradford,	3	Bradford City,	0
Huddersfield,	x	Leeds City,	x
Leicester Fosse,	4	Birmingham,	2
Sheffield Wednesday,	2	Sheffield United,	1
Notts Forest,	2	Notts County,	3

London Combination.

Watford,	6	Millwall Athletic,	3
Q.P. Rangers,	2	Fulham,	0
Southampton,	2	Portsmouth,	1
Clapton Orient,	1	Arsenal,	3
Luton Town,	5	Tottenham Hotspur,	3
Chelsea,	3	Brentford,	2
West Ham United,	2	Crystal Palace,	1

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	A.	Pts.
Celtic,	36	26	0	10	74	16	62
Rangers,	35	23	7	5	66	27	51
Morton,	36	22	8	6	68	39	50
Airdrieonians,	36	20	9	7	69	37	47
Third Lanark,	36	18	18	10	51	37	46
Kilmarnock,	37	17	13	7	67	45	41
St. Mirren,	36	15	13	9	49	42	39
Motherwell,	37	16	15	6	57	57	38
Partick Thistle,	36	14	15	7	44	38	35
Falkirk,	37	12	16	10	57	56	34
Dumbarton,	36	12	15	9	55	72	33
Clyde,	36	9	13	14	40	48	32
Hamilton Acad.,	36	11	16	9	47	71	31
Hibs,	36	10	16	10	56	68	30
Hearts,	36	13	20	3	41	58	29
Ayr United,	37	11	19	7	45	58	29
Dundee,	36	12	21	3	56	70	27
Queen's Park,	35	10	19	6	53	79	26
Raith Rovers,	36	8	21	7	40	86	23
Aberdeen,	36	6	23	7	34	65	19

EASTERN LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	A.	Pts.
Cowdenbeath,	18	11	2	5	46	19	27
East Fife,	16	10	2	4	24	7	24
St. Bernards,	17	10	5	2	35	17	22
Armadale,	16	6	4	6	28	22	17
Dunfermline Ath.,	16	7	8	1	21	17	15
Dundee Hibs,	16	6	8	2	28	31	14
East Stirlingshire,	15	5	7	3	26	34	13
Broxburn United,	16	4	9	3	12	24	10
Bathgate,	13	3	8	2	18	31	8
Lochgelly United,	13	2	11	0	10	35	4

RANGERS' RED CROSS RALLY.

The rally at Ibrox for the Red Cross and Soldiers' Comfort Funds proved a success, £400 being the drawings. Beside the army football match, the Murray Troupe of International Dancers gave a pleasing turn. The boxing events were:—Masters R. Mackie, of the Cotters' School, Edinburgh, and J. M'Connochie, of the Glasgow Amateur Club, in a six-round contest for the flea-weight championship. This was a good turn, with the "midget" leading the Edinburgh boy on points.

Tancy Lee and Wally Ross gave a four-round exhibition, which carried no verdict. "Wally" showed his "serpentine" movements, and Lee his elusive circles, and all over it was an enjoyable turn, though the boys were not out to hurt. Sid Shields and Alec Lindsay were also on show in an exhibition contest, which showed the men well matched. P. A. Lumley refereed the boxing, and W. G. Millar was the timekeeper.

NOTED HEART WOUNDED.

Lieutenant James Low, Seaforth Highlanders, the noted Hearts' right wing forward, has been wounded in action.

NEXT SATURDAY'S BEST TIPS.

HOME WINS.—Ayr United, Celtic, Partick Thistle, Third Lanark, Everton, Stockport County, Stoke, Chesterfield Town, Hull City, Tottenham Hotspur, Millwall Athletic.

AWAY WINS.—Rangers, Morton, Rochdale, Notts Forest, West Ham, Clapton Orient.

PROBABLE DRAWS.—Aberdeen v. Hibernian, Manchester City v. Manchester United, Fulham v. Chelsea.

CELTIC MAINTAIN THEIR UNBEATEN CERTIFICATE AT EDINBURGH.

MILLER KEEPS A MASTERLY GOAL FOR DUMBARTON AGAINST MORTON.

ALL ABOUT YESTERDAY'S LEADING LEAGUE GAMES.

Dumbarton played every whit as good football as Morton at Greenock, and up to a certain point it was anybody's game. Miller's masterly goalkeeping was an outstanding feature of the first half. Time and again he baffled the home forwards, and M'Grory lent him able assistance. M'Nab, on Morton's left, missed some fine scoring chances, but later he made amends. What the first half lacked in the scoring line was made up for in the second. M'Kim very near beat Bradford soon after resuming. A little later Stevenson headed the ball past the vigilant Miller. Morton were again on the offensive, and a well placed corner by M'Nab resulted in Stevenson scoring a second goal. Much lively football was seen after this. Smart concerted play by Dumbarton forwards had Morrison and Ormonde frequently in difficulties, and Stewart scored a fine goal for the visitors. Then a telling shot by M'Nab blasted what hopes the visitors may have had of securing a draw. Grant and Stevenson were the best forwards for Morton. Wright and M'Lean were effective behind. Dumbarton had a capital defence, and the attack was good.

Morton, 3; Dumbarton, 1.

Morton—Bradford; Morrison and Ormonde; J. Stevenson, Wright, and M'Lean; Grant, Pte. M'Culloch, Gourlay, Stevenson, and M'Nab.

Dumbarton — Miller; M'Grory and Semple; Travers, Raeside, and Gunn; Ritchie, Stewart, Cairney, M'Kim, and Thom.

DUNDEE'S DEFEAT.

By superior combination and dash Motherwell were worthy winners at Dens Park, where they beat Dundee by 2 to 0. For a time persistent pressure was maintained by Dundee, but Rundall emerged unbeaten. Motherwell were favoured by fortune when they opened the score. The ball had been carried down the left, and when Ferguson directed the shot a mix-up between Bower and Baxter allowed the ball to enter the net. The first half was certainly Dundee's. In the second half Dundee showed more dash, but were lacking in method. Moreover, Finlayson was giving Brown no scope, and, generally speaking, the home attack seldom looked like getting the better of a resolute defence. Twenty minutes of the second half had gone when Kelly crossed judiciously. Ferguson caught on, and beat Burns and Bower, who had come out to meet him. The ex-Parkhead centre literally walked into the net with the ball.

Motherwell, 2; Dundee, 0.

Dundee—Bower; Baxter and Burns; M'Intosh, Thomson, and Stirling; Herron, Murray, Brown, Steven, and Erskine.

Motherwell—Rundell; Finlayson and Dinsmore; M'Stay, Brown, and Stewart; Kelly, King, Ferguson, Gray, and Morgan.

THE SPIDERS' SUCCESS.

Queen's Park won comfortably at Hampden Park, where Hamilton Academicals were the visitors. They were the stronger side. Hamilton's defence was shaky. Queen's Park did heaps of attacking. Morton centred, Robertson failed to clear a simple-looking ball, M'Dermid got it, and gave to Aitken, who promptly netted. Shortly after Morton centred again, and this time M'Dermid met the ball with his head, and added a second goal. Hamilton's van was thrustless, and neat passing in the outfield went for naught. The Spiders scored again before half-time, M'Dermid crowning fine forcing work by Barrie by finding the net. M'Neill missed two easy chances for the visitors.

Queen's were the more aggressive in the second period. Morton dazzled, and from a pass of his Walker got a fourth goal. Hamilton bucked up. Thorpe handled in the box, and Graham opened the Acas' account. Kelly added a second goal with a nice shot. Thorpe, Barrie, and Morton shone brightest for the winners. Purdie, Kelly, Murphy, and M'Neill were the pick of the losers.

Queen's Park, 4; Hamilton Academicals, 2.

Queen's Park—R. Ward; P. Thorpe and J. Neilson; J. Paterson, J. G. Barrie, and A. Ford; W. J. Aitken, R. F. M'Dermid, F. Walker, F. J. M'Connachie, and A. L. Morton.

Hamilton Academicals—Hamilton; Robertson and A. Miller; M'Lennan, Purdie, and Paterson; M'Neill, Murphy, Graham, Kyle, and Kelly.

CLYDE CONQUER.

St Mirren suffered defeat at Shawfield, where they put up a strong fight against the Clyde. The Saints began with good dash, and for fifteen minutes had the better of the argument, Shingleton having to do lots of saving. Then Clyde came into the game more, and several severe onslaughts were repelled by the Paisley defence. Hillcoat saved many hot shots, and at the other end the Clyde keeper had no soft job. In thirty minutes Shimmon sailed away along the Clyde left, and, crossing acurately, C. Watson got hold, and drew blood with a beauty.

The second half was a ding-dong affair, with the Saints having slightly the better of the exchanges. Both defences did well. Marshall at length equalised for the Paisley side from a penalty. Clyde made a desperate effort to get ahead again, and succeeded through Shimmon. The game was value for a draw. Shingleton, Farrell, Forrest, C. Watson, Jackson, and Shimmon were brightest for Clyde, and Hillcoat, Marshall, Reid, Dixon, Sowerby, and Brown were best for the Saints.

Clyde, 2; St Mirren, 1.

Clyde—Shingleton; D. Watson and Farrell; Daly, Cowan, and Forrest; C. Watson, G. Watson, Thomson, Jackson, and Shimmon.

St Mirren—Hillcoat; Marshall and Reid; Brown, Dixon, and Walls; Sowerby, Pringle, Turner, Lindsay, and A. Brown.

RANGERS WIN.

Rangers beat the Army Select team in a war charity match at Ibrox. The crowd was 15,000. In the Army side there was only one change, Ingram, of Ayr United coming in for Bennett. The run of the play gave evidence that there was nothing at stake, and the brilliance of the soldier side was largely individual. Of players outstanding there were none, unless we except Mercer, who was telling in his tackling and his feeding. The sodgers scored first. Hildon got in a shot which took the woodwork, and Manderson in his attempt to clear put the ball past Lock. The Rangers played clever football, especially the left wingers, and Gordon was frequently beaten. Bell levelled the score.

Rangers sparkled in the second half, and the Army side were well up the pole. The Govanites only got their due when Charlie Duncan gave Brownlie no option to clear, and when Bell smashed home the third goal it was all over, even though the Light Blues finished minus Riddell. For Rangers Blair, Bowie, "Anderson," Bell, and Livingstone were outstanding. Brownlie, Gordon, Merser, Fletcher, Ingram, and Hilsdon were the pick of the Select.

Rangers, 3; Army Select, 1.

Rangers — Lock; Manderson and Blair; Bowie, Riddell, and Pursell; Anderson, Bell, C. Duncan, Livingstone, and Lawson.

Army Select — Gunner Brownlie (Third Lanark); Sergt. Gordon (Rangers) and Cpl. Henderson (Falkirk); Bombardier Mercer (Hearts), 2d Lieut. J. Galt (Everton), and Driver Fletcher (Barnsley); Gunner Ingram (Ayr United), L.-Cpl. Hilsdon (West Ham), Sergt. Denyer (Swindon), Sergt. Wall (Manchester United), and Cpl. Croot (Leeds City).

KILLIE RUB IT IN.

Falkirk were the visitors to Rugby Park. Kilmarnock started with ten men, and before Patrick came on Culley got through and gave Stewart no chance. The homesters sparkled, and after a bright passage Rutherford shot past when he might have counted. Falkirk were disappointing, and Watson failed off a corner from Simpson, and M'Phail scored a second goal, and Culley, who was well on the mark, beat Stewart for the third goal. Closing in on the interval, Falkirk had a successful rally, and Croal beat Blair with a header. Killie led 3-1 at the interval. It was a game of give and take in the second half, with the homesters less thrustful than is their wont. They had several good shots charged down luckily, and it was well on for time when Culley completed the hat trick, and his side counted four. Kilmarnock were great in defence and sound forward, and were good winners.

Kilmarnock, 4; Falkirk, 1.

Kilmarnock—Blair; Mitchell and Patrick; Henderson, Goldie, and Johnston; Fulton, Smith, Culley, Rutherford, and M'Phail.

Falkirk—Stewart; M'Millan and Donaldson; Harvey, A. Comrie, and M'Culloch; Simpson, Watson, Shearer, Croall, and D. Comrie.

RALLY BY RAITH.

Raith Rovers were victorious in a rousing and hard-fought game. Partick Thistle provided the opposition, and, striking a fine game at the very start, made things hot for the Raith defence. Neish was in his best form in Rovers' goal, but his flag was at last lowered by Reid. Rovers, however, quickly made up the leeway. Gibson led a strong attack, and beat Bruce, the junior international goalkeeper, from a scrimmage. Before half-time Trotter, an ex-Leeds City player, who turned out for Rovers, gave the home team the lead. The tables were completely turned in the second half. The Thistle had evidently shot their bolt in the first, and as the game progressed the Rovers gradually took the upper hand. If the home forwards had been as dead on the mark as the Thistle were in the first half they might have secured a handful of goals. As it was they only added one more, Lindsay heading into the net from a corner kick by Gibson. As the game proceeded some feeling crept into the game. The result—3-1 for Rovers—was merited on the play. For the Thistle, Bruce, Bulloch, Harris, Bowie, and Honeyman were outstanding. The Rovers were well served by all; but Neish, Robson, Muir, Abbott, and Lindsay may be specially mentioned.

Raith Rovers—Neish; Robson and Muir; Rattray, Inglis, and Currie; Archibald, Lindsay, Trotter, Abbott, and Gibson.

Partick Thistle—Bruce; Robertson and Bulloch; Harris, Gardner, and M'Mullan; Whittle, Humphries, Reid, Honeyman, and Bowie.

CELTIC AT EASTER ROAD

Celtic maintain their unbeaten record. Hibs did not break it, but very seriously menaced it.

Right from the start of the game at Easter Road an adroit effort on the part of Kilpatrick put Shaw's charge in jeopardy, but M'Nair saved the situation. In defence Kilpatrick was often in evidence, M'Coll and M'Menemy finding him one too many for them. It was some time before Gallagher, M'Menemy, and company settled down to their game. It was well on in the first half ere the only goal of the game accrued. Gallagher cut out the work, and it was he who finally had the credit of scoring the goal. There were several chances presented to the Hibs thereafter. Kilpatrick had one, Lennie had another, but they were unable to obtain the equaliser. Celtic were undoubtedly the better side. Brown was the best of the Celtic halves, and M'Coll and M'Menemy shone in the van. The Hibs' defence did good work, M'Manus proving a notable keeper.

Celtic, 1; Hibs, 0.

Hibs—M'Manus; Borthwick and Dornan; Kerr, Paterson, and Gordon; Lennie, Fleming, Kilpatrick, Miller, and Campbell.

Celtic—Shaw; M'Nair and Dodds; Wilson, M'Stay, and Brown; M'Atee, Gallagher, M'Coll, M'Menemy, and Browning.

YARNALL'S GOAL.

The League game at Airdrie between the 'Onians and Ayr United yielded one goal and full points to the home side. During the first half Airdrieonians succeeded in confining play to the Ayr end of the field, but, notwithstanding the continued pressure, the Broomfield attack, as a line, was of little account. The play of the Ayr forwards was also disjointed. As a matter of fact, the first-half display was the poorest seen on Broomfield for many a day.

There was more fight in the second half. In the first minute Marshall picked up a cross from a right and popped into goal, and a goal looked almost a certainty. Bernard threw himself on the top of the leather, however, and miraculously saved. Airdrieonians altered their style of play, and by means of long, even passing made more progress. The ball was swung along to the toe of Rankin, who in turn gave to Yarnall, and the latter crowned all with one of his cannon shots, and the first goal was thus chalked up for the 'Onians. This finished the scoring, and a poor, colourless game ended in favour of the Broomfield side by one goal to nil.

Airdrieonians—Bernard; Macdonald and Watson; Knox, Kennedy, and Comrie; Renton, Anderson, Yarnall, Donaldson, and Paterson.

Ayr United—Nesbit; Bell and Hay; G. B Waddell, W. Cringan, and M'Lachlan; R. Cringan, Crosbie, Marshall, Devine, and Shankley.

CLYDE LOSE AT CATHKIN.

Third Lanark and Clyde met at Cathkin last night. M'Lean was absent from the home side, and Clyde showed six changes in the team which defeated St Mirren in the afternoon. The visitors were soon aggressive, but the Warriors' defence was sound. Both forward ranks failed at goal.

In the second half Third Lanark, against the wind, showed improved attacking form. Cook should have scored, but allowed himself to be dispossessed a few yards from Shingleton. Bissett and Weir worked the ball down, and Weir scored with a beautiful shot high in the far corner of the net. He almost repeated the performance later, having very hard luck with a good shot. Clyde were under dog this half. M'Cormack, Weir, Brownlie, Hannah, and Bissett were extra good for the homesters. Cowan, Farrell, Walker, Neave, and Morris were Clyde's best.

Third Lanark, 1; Clyde, 0.

Third Lanark—Brownlie; M'Cormack and Mackie; Walker, Hannah, and Brown; Bissett, Weir, Cook, Wilkie, and Thomson.

Clyde—Shingleton; Cowan and Farrell; Walker, Neave, and Forrest; Morris, Watson, Noble, Hannah, and Beedie.

HEARTS BROKEN.

In the friendly game at North End Park, Cowdenbeath, Hearts were beaten 5-1. They were much below their usual strength. The visitors flattered only to deceive. M'Kinlay had many anxious moments in the first half-hour's play, in which Thomson, Gibb, and Sharp fully tested his goalkeeping abilities. A goal soon followed, however, for the home team, Paterson being responsible for the point. A minute from the interval Hearts equalised through Gibb.

The second half was practically all in favour of Cowdenbeath, Mackay registered a second goal, and the same player had also the third and fourth to his credit. Paterson added a fifth. Cowdenbeath were best served by M'Kinlay, M'Lean, Mackay, and Gow. For Hearts, Black and Kiernan were in a class by themselves, but of the others Thomson and Gibb alone are worthy of special mention.

STIFF STRUGGLE AT STEVENSTON.

Stevenston United and Johnstone met in a Western Cup game at Stevenston. In the first half Johnstone made the better show, and several times nearly captured the Stevenston goal. Jamieson was in top form, and twice his shots seriously tested Hodge. Goldie gave a good display. He was responsible for the only goal of the match by passing the ball to Paton, who in turn tipped it over to Young, the latter player scoring. Another smart piece of play was shown by Farrell, of Stevenston, who had a solo run, outwitting two opponents, and finishing with a shot which Matthews cleared on the post. Best for the winners were—Paton, Goldie, and Farrell, while, for Johnstone, Jamieson, Matthews, and Owens were prominent. Result:—Stevenston United, 1; Johnstone, 0.

EAST FIFE'S TRIUMPH.

Continuing their victorious career, East Fife entered the final of the Fife Cup at Methil, defeating Dunfermline Athletic by 2-0. The visitors were unfortunate in being unable to field a full team, having only ten players. They, however, played a robust game, and forced numerous corners, but could not break through the stone-wall defence of Methil. Law opened the scoring ten minutes from the start, and also put on the second goal after the interval.

CLYDEBANK'S NAP.

Clydebank and Vale of Leven met in a Dumbartonshire Cup-tie at Millburn Park, Alexandria. Play was pretty much of a farce, owing to only three of the Vale's regular players appearing on the scene, with the result that substitutes had to be picked from the field. Vale could only turn out ten men. Black opened the scoring from a penalty kick, after twenty minutes' play, and a few minutes later added a second goal. After the interval Macmillan scored for Clydebank. Black added a fourth (thereby accomplishing the hat-trick), and Corner a fifth. Result:—Clydebank, 5; Vale of Leven, 0.

HARP IN TUNE.

Dumbarton Harp were the victors at Meadowpark, Dumbarton, although they played for the first half-hour minus M'Bride, their goalkeeper, who was late in arriving. Albion Rovers were in opposition. Ferguson scored for Harp fourteen minutes from the interval. On resuming Ewing (Rovers) put the ball through his own goal, while twelve minutes from time Nearie had a third goal for Harp. Duffy added a fourth. Result:—Dumbarton Harp, 4; Albion Rovers, 0.

ABERCORN'S NAP.

It is not too much to say that the game between Abercorn and Renton at Paisley was won and lost in the first six minutes. By that time Abercorn had scored three goals, and Renton's makeshift eleven, although showing spells of really clever play, never gave the impression of being able to overtake their opponents' score. Inglis scored Abercorn's first goal, and Clark the last, Spiers having a trio in between. Reilly got Renton's only point. Abercorn, 5; Renton, 1.

PEDS AT POWDERHALL.

A mile foot handicap for prizes of £5, 15s, and 5s produced over eighty entrants. Result:—J. W. Thompson, Musselburgh (120 yards); 2 Sergeant A. Grierson, Kinross (105 yards); 3 G. M'Crae, Banknock (scratch). Forty-five ran. Betting—6 to 4 on Thompson, 2 to 1 against Corrie, Edinburgh (100 yards), 4 to 1 M'Crae. Won by six yards; a yard between second and third. Time—4 min. 46 secs.

A sixty yards foot handicap at Powderhall. Run in twelve heats for prizes of £5, 15s, and 5s. Result:—1 D. Smith, Broxburn (12 yards); 2 D. Stevenson, Leith (12 yards); 3 J. W. Howard, Cowdenbeath (10 yards); 4 R. M'Pherson, Leith (9 yards). Betting—3 to 1 on Smith, 7 to 2 against Stevenson, 5 to 1 Howard, 8 to 1 M'Pherson. Won by inches; half-yard between second and third. Time—6 1-5 secs.

WHIPPETING.

GLASGOW HANDICAP.

A 200 yards handicap was run off in heats at Rockville Grounds, Possilpark, yesterday afternoon. First semi-final—Visitor and White Bloom. Second semi-final—White Star and Jean. Third semi-final—Rasp, Scotch Thistle, and Street Singer—dead heat for second place. Final—1 Mr Evans' White Bloom, 2 Mr King's White Star, 3 Mr Smith's Jean.

Betting—5 to 4 on Visitor, 3 to 1 against Jean, 4 to 1 White Bloom, 10 to 1 others. Won by a neck.

EDINBURGH HANDICAP.

A 190 yards handicap for a first prize of £3 and 10s to each of the other finalists was run off at Powderhall, Edinburgh, yesterday. About 200 dogs took part. Finalists—Pace's (Methil) Nelson (34); Knox's (Bennyrigg) Diana Forget (35); Stewart's (Tranent) Airship (33); Chalmers' (Tranent) Cowboy (35); Hodge's (Donibristle) Mac (34). Winner—Mac. Betting—6 to 4 against Mac and Airship, 5 to 2 against Cowboy, 7 to 1 Nelson, 10 to 1 Diana Forget. Won on the tape. Time—10⅘ sec.

LOCHGELLY HANDICAP.

The Lochgelly weekly dog handicap came off yesterday afternoon. There was a good turnout of dogs, and an extra large attendance of spectators. The semi-final heats were very close, and in the final the winners won by a foot.

Result:—Mr Wallace's (Bowhill) Midget (9); Mr Shaw's (Cardendal Deleon (8); Mr Duffy's (Lochrie) Slow Coach (14½); Mr M'Rae's (Glencraig) Artful (12½). Betting—3-4 against Midget.

COATBRIDGE MEET.

The usual weekly handicap took place on the Coatbridge Grounds yesterday afternoon, in delightful weather. There was a large attendance and a good entry. The programme opened with the final rounds in the previous week's handicap. Results:—First semi-final—1 Gilchrist's Wee Meg (42), 2 Clark's Blood Mixture (36). Second semi-final—1 Hughes' Wee Jean (37), 2 Mooney's Doon (40). Final—1 Doon, 2 Blood Mixture. Betting—4 to 1 against winner. Twenty heats in a new handicap were also completed. Winners:—Wilson's Dark Day (47), Allardice's Runaway (48), Bennett's Blue Boy (38), M'Cabe's Black Knight (50), M'Grachen's Erin's Beauty (48), M'Lean's Black Bess (45), Lynch's Highland Mary (36), Maxwell's Midnight (42), M'Cabe's Sparkling Kate (46), Thomson's Hurry On (43), Gibson's Jingling Geordie (45), Wood's Central (38), Doyle's Shady Boy (42), Gilchrist's Wee Meg (42), Hughes' Wee Jean (37), M'Cormack's Lisa (39), Taggart's White Squall (33), Marshall's Wandering Boy (43), Anderson's Wee Jess (46), Wilson's Rover (44). Only Lass and Black Face also qualified.

BILLIARDS.

DIGGLE (in play),	... ...	9001
INMAN,	... ...	7084

£100 FOR FOOTBALL RESULTS.

Here is an opportunity of winning £100.

All you have to do is to forecast fifteen correct results. There is NO NEED TO GIVE SCORES.

The competitor who gives the fifteen correct results gets the £100. In the event of more than one competitor being correct the prize will be divided.

If no competitor sends in a coupon giving the fifteen correct results a consolation prize of £10 will be awarded to the competitor who sends in the coupon with the largest number of correct results.

In the event of more than one competitor sending in a coupon with the same number of correct results the consolation prize will be divided.

On the accompanying form you will find a list of fifteen matches which are to be played on Saturday, April 21.

Strike out in ink the name of the club you think will lose. If in your opinion any game will end in a draw leave the name of both competing teams. In the event of any of the matches not being played or being abandoned or postponed the prize of £100 will not be awarded, but the offer of the consolation prize will still hold.

Any reader may send in as many efforts as may be desired, but each forecast must be written on a separate form. These forms, together with any used from the "Weekly News," may be posted in one envelope.

Any entry form on which an alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified.

Each competitor must give his or her real address, and must write his or her signature and address in ink.

In all matters relating to this competition the Editor's decision is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED ON SATURDAY, APRIL 21.

Everton	v. Liverpool.
Manchester C.	v. Manchester U.
Oldham Ath.	v. Rochdale.
Preston N.E.	v. Burnley.
Bradford City	v. Leeds City.
Barnsley	v. Sheffiel W.
Notts County	v. Birmingham.
Leicester Fosse	v. Notts Forest.
Fulham	v. Chelsea.
Arsenal	v. West Ham U.
Brentford	v. Watford.
Aberdeen	v. Hibernians.
Dumbarton	v. Airdrieonians.
Motherwell	v. Morton.
Partick Thistle	v. Queen's Park.

I enter this competition in accordance with the printed conditions in "The Post Sunday Special," and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signature, ...

Address, ...

.....

.....

This competition is run in conjunction with the "Weekly News."

The Editor cannot accept responsibility for the loss or non-delivery of any entry form, and will not accept proof of postage as proof of receipt or delivery.

No correspondence can be entered into in connection with the competition.

The Editor reserves the right to disqualify any entry, but agrees not to disqualify any entry without good and sufficient reason.

Entries must be sent by post addressed to "£100 Results Editor," "The Post Sunday Special" Office, 138 Port-Dundas Road, Glasgow, and posted so that they reach us not later than the first post on Wednesday, April 18.

RESULT OF FOOTBALL CONTEST

Matches Played March 31.

In this contest no one correctly forecasted fifteen results, but one reader submitted a form showing two errors, and our Consolation Prize of £10 is therefore awarded to

Mrs M'GINN, 16 Buchanan Street, Johnstone.

At a meeting held in Edinburgh last night the semi-final draw for the East of Scotland Cup resulted as follows:—Broxburn Athletic v. Denbeath Star, Leith Benburb v. Winchburgh Violet.

WHAT'S THE USE OF BEING STRONG IN THE HEAD IF YOU ARE WEAK IN THE BACK?

You may be one of the most intellectual men breathing, may know more than a dozen men of average intelligence, be a human Encyclopædia, in fact, and your friends may speak of you as "an exceptionally clever fellow."

But if your body is weak, what is the use of your brain being strong? With all the will in the world, there are many things you will never be able to accomplish without physical strength. Why, then, not attain the combination of physical strength with mental strength? Can it be done? you ask. Yes, it can be done in the simplest possible way, but by the only possible means. That means is to infuse into your system the unfailing life-giving element,

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Oliver's Foot Draft does its work by following Nature's plan—removing the uric acid poison from your system through the skin.

Oliver's Foot Draft is a powerful antiseptic plaster. Applied to the soles of the feet, where the excretory pores are largest, and where it will not interfere with your work or your pleasures in any way, it brings almost instant relief from pain and quickly removes all traces of the disease.

Write your name and address on the coupon below, post it to me, and a 5s. treatment will be sent you to try. Owing to the increased postage rates, we should appreciate the enclosure of 6d. in stamps from bona-fide inquirers.—R. A. OLIVER, KH15, Faulkner House, Wine Office Court, London, E.C.4.

5/- FREE COUPON.

With no obligation on my part, please send me free one 5s. treatment of Oliver's Foot Draft, the famous cure for Rheumatism.

Name, ...

Address, ...

.....KH15

RHEUMATISM-KIDNEY TROUBLE.

Rheumatism, backache, lumbago, sciatica, gout, urinary trouble, stone, gravel, dropsy, are the result of excessive uric acid. Ectora Tablets, a specific based on modern medical science, are the successful treatment. 1/3 per box of 40 tablets, or 6 for 6/9, all chemists, or post free from Ectora Co., 132 Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

"THE £20 LOOK"

will be yours if you correctly estimate the Number of Persons who will pass through Rothesay Pier Turnstiles between 2nd April and 31st May, 1917.

A Donation of 6d to the Funds of the Bute Branch of the Red Cross Society, accompanying the attached coupon, may win you either of the following prizes:—

COUPON.
Rothesay Turnstiles Red Cross Subscriptions.
"Post Sunday Special."

1st Prize (exact estimate)—£20 War Savings Certificate.
2nd Prize (nearest estimate)—£10 War Savings Certificate.
Five £1 Certificates for next nearest estimates.

Write as follows:—"My estimate is ..... persons."

NAME .....

ADDRESS, ...

To return with coupon addressed to "COUPON," TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE, ROTHESAY, before THURSDAY, 24th May.

Any number of estimates may be sent, but each must be accompanied by P.O. for 6d.

To assist competitors it may be stated that during the first week (2d till 9th April) 10,925 persons passed through the new turnstiles.

FATE OF POPULAR VALE OF LEVEN OFFICER.

Mr and Mrs James Finlayson, 27 Bridge Street, Alexandria, have received official intimation from the War Office that their third son, Lieutenant Alexander Cunningham Finlayson, Royal Flying Corps, died from wounds in France on 9th April. Deceased, who was twenty years of age, was a native of Alexandria, and joined the colours in August, 1914. He met with an accident while in training, and was discharged. Being keen to serve his country, he managed to rejoin the colours, and latterly received his commission in the Royal Flying Corps. He had only been a fortnight in France when he met his death. Prior to enlisting he was employed in the Alexandria Works, Alexandria, as an analytical chemist. Deceased was one of three brothers who gave their services to the colours.

FUNERAL OF EX-SUPERINTENDENT OF N.B. LINE.

Musselburgh, Saturday Night.

There was a very large gathering of mourners at the funeral this afternoon at Portobello of Mr John Black, until recently superintendent of the line of the North British Railway.

Mr Black was president of the Edinburgh Swimming Club, and many of his fellow-members, as well as Masonic brethren, attended. Among the leading mourners were Mr Wm. Whitelaw, chairman, and Mr W. F. Jackson, general manager; and an old personal friend of the deceased, Mr John Strachan, Fife district traffic superintendent, North British Railway, who has been appointed State Controller of Mines in Scotland.

ARBITER APPOINTED

In Dundee Wages Dispute.

Dundee, Saturday.

Sir Thomas Munro, County Buildings, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, has been appointed arbiter in the application by Dundee jute workers for an increase of wages.

Mr John F. Sime, secretary of the Jute and Flax Workers' Union, received intimation this afternoon from Sir George Askwith of the appointment of Sir Thomas Munro, and was requested to communicate when to make the necessary arrangements in regard to the hearing of the case.

The various Unions connected with the trade made application in February for an increase of fifteen per cent. to all piece workers and three shillings per week to all time workers.

NAPS FOR NEWMARKET

BY THE COLONEL.

NEWMARKET CRAVEN MEETING.

Tuesday, April 17

Visitors' Plate—Parley, nap*; Gunning next best.
Crawford Plate (Class I.)—Armandare, nap**; Polyphonic next best.
Crawford Plate (Class II.)—All Serene, nap***; Tingvalla next best.
Apprentice Handicap (Class I.)—Elevator, nap***; Scarpa Flow next best.
Apprentice Handicap (Class II.)—La Marseillaise, nap; Sir George next best.
Ashley Plate—Cracksman, nap***; Rare Ruby next best.
Fitzwilliam Stakes (Class I.)—Tit for Tat colt, nap; Beaufort next best.
Fitzwilliam Stakes (Class II.)—Assurance filly, nap*; Miss Lettice colt next best.
Spring Stakes—Brown Prince, nap; Minstrel next best.

Wednesday, April 18.

Column Produce Stakes—Gay Crusader, nap**; Coq D'Or next best.
Severals' Stakes—Diadem, nap**; Margarethal next best.
Granby Plate—Horn Reef, nap*; Cracksman next best.
Babraham Plate—Raybarrow, nap***; Irish Recruit next best.
Wood Ditton Stakes—Sunset Glow, nap***; Argosy next best.
Wednesday Plate—Gentle Saxon, nap; Frisbury next best.
Three-Year-Old Plate—Waltz, nap*; Nereid next best.

Thursday, April 19.

Three-Year-Old Handicap (Class I.)—By Jingo, nap**; Telephus next best.
Three-Year-Old (Class II.)—Andreas, nap*; Landmark next best.
Craven Stakes—Dunsellen, nap**; Summoner next best.
April Plate—Athletic, nap***; Polydamon next best.
Maiden Plate—Red Grieve, nap*; Dilston next best.
Flying Handicap—Amphitryon, nap***; Queen of the Seas next best.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

DEMAND FOR INVESTMENT SECURITIES.

(Specially Contributed to "The Post Sunday Special.")

London, Saturday Night.

The Stock Exchange has been greatly heartened by the various important developments which have taken place during the week, both military and financial, and, in fact, has become very optimistic as regards the probable duration of the war.

The improvement in the Stocks Markets has been slow but sure, and neither the Treasury Bill nor the Exchequer Bond issues, which appeal chiefly to the Money market, should exercise any direct influence upon permanent securities.

MARKETS BARE OF INVESTMENT STOCKS.

In fact, the demand for irredeemable investment stocks has lately been so pronounced that the markets are practically bare of such securities. Investors have, consequently, to take the next best, and have been picking up Home Rails in the first place, while even Argentine Rails, on the prospect of the embargo on wheat exports being removed, have also been in good demand.

Attention is now being devoted to promising issues in other markets, and amongst them British North Borneos are a feature around 16s, in view of the important progress now being made by the numerous Plantation Rubber concerns in which this company has taken a big stake.

The shares are of the face value of £1, and they appear to be intrinsically worth this price at least. The pre-war make-up price, however, was 13-16, and it is possible that the forward movement will not be resumed until the bulk of the stale Bull accounts have been liquidated.

Pekin Syndicates, to which special attention was drawn here a few weeks ago, have been in strong demand, and are quoted around 15s. If the negotiations to which reference was made in these notes are successfully completed, it would not be surprising if the shares were to climb gradually to about 20s.

REFLECTIONS ON RUBBER SHARES.

We may take credit for the consistency with which the merits of the Rubber market have been given prominence in this column before the present important forward movement began, especially when, in other quarters, the market was being damned with faint praise.

The demand has now broadened out to such an extent as to afford every justification for anticipating a continuance of the rise.

OILS AT LAST COMING TO THE FRONT.

It has been weary work waiting, but the manner in which the Oil market has come to the front of late is of good augury as regards the future of this department. For the time being the demand has turned chiefly on the investment descriptions, notably Shell Transports and Burmahs, the merits of which have already been dilated upon in this column.

Lobitos, too, have continued well to the fore. Another feature has been the strong demand for Mexican Eagle Preference and Ordinary shares, which are up, at 45s.

RANDFONTEIN REACT — MODDERS STRONG.

After the sharp rise Randfontein Estates have reacted on profit-taking, but are now rallying slightly at 17s 3d. On the other hand the Modderfontein Group is very strong, especially Modder Deep, which have advanced to 7 on the remarkable improvement in profits as compared with 1916, so that against the dividend of 67½ per cent. for last year, distributions of 90 per cent. for 1917 are expected. New Modderfontein and Modder "B" are also strong.

SHARP RISE IN BARRIERS ON NEW PROCESS.

The rise in Barriers has been further accentuated by news from the Mount Morgan Mine, that the new Hancock jig process is proving a great success for smelting ore at increased economy. Thereupon Broken Hill Props, North, and Zinc Corporation have further advanced. Silver is quietly maintained.

RISE IN TIN.

Tin has further improved to £217 5s, and while Nigerian shares are firmer, great attention is being devoted to Cornish mines, and more especially to South Crofty. The earnings of this Company have already increased, and it is paying quarterly a dividend of 5 per cent., with a bonus at the end of the year, while higher distributions are anticipated.

YESTERDAY'S PRICES.

(By "Post" Special Wire.)

The following are the quotations in stocks and shares in which there was a movement:—

HOME RAILS.

Cal Def	9	⅜	La North-West	96½	7
Gt Western	89½	90			

AMERICANS.

Chesapeake	63½	4½	Do Prf	36½	6½
Chic Gt West	12¼	¾	New York Ont	26¾	6½
Denver	14¾	5¾	Southern Ord	30	½

FOREIGN RAILS.

Buenos G South	76½	7½	N. Mex 1st Pref	12	3
Buenos West	75¾	6½	Havana	79½	80½
Can Pac	171½	2½			

DIAMONDS.

Frank Smith	3/9				

EXPLORATION AND LAND, &c.

New Africas	5/6		Selection Corporation	3½	

GOLD OUTPUTS.

Goduld	42/6		Modder B Gold	7	11-16

AUSTRALIAN.

Brit Broken Hill P	28/9		Broken Hill Prop	49/-	
Broken Hill North	49/-				

RUBBER MARKET.

Anglo-Ceylon	3½		Golden Hope	3	3-16
Glenshiel	4½		Seaport	26/6	

SAFEGUARD YOUR HEALTH WITH

THE RELIABLE FAMILY MEDICINE. Used by Doctors and the Public in all parts of the World for upwards of 60 years.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE

The Best Remedy Known for COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.

A true palliative in NEURALGIA TOOTHACHE, RHEUMATISM.

Acts like a charm in DIARRHŒA, COLIC, and other bowel complaints.

Always ask for a "Dr. COLLIS BROWNE." Of all chemists. 1/1½, 2/-, 5/-

PAIN STOPPED.

SIMPLE HOME REMEDY. Trial Package Free To-Day.

Are you in pain? This is the question you will hear daily, and to be able to relieve pain, whether it be a slight nervous headache or the most excruciating sufferings of neuralgia or rheumatism, brings the height of pleasure to both patient and doctor.

Touching this point, a well-known doctor (M.D.) says Antikamnia Tablets have become favourites with members of the medical profession, they are very reliable in all kinds of pain, and act at once. To stop pain quickly the dose is one tablet, repeat the dose ten minutes later if necessary.

Antikamnia Tablets never fail to give relief in all pains due to rheumatism, headache, sciatica, neuralgia, toothache, gout, and are especially useful for all conditions known as women's aches and pains.

Antikamnia Tablets are quite safe, and leave no unpleasant after-effects, and in 92 per cent. of all cases they stop the pain immediately.

TRIAL PACKAGES FREE.

10,000 packages of Antikamnia Tablets have been set aside for free distribution. If you will send your name and address (a postcard will do) asking for samples and further particulars to Antikamnia Dept. (A29), 46, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., and you will receive one of these presentation packages with interesting booklet and further particulars absolutely free of charge.

"THE PROVIDENTIAL DISCOVERY THAT HAS NEVER FAILED."

Through incessant recommendations of those cured, the demand is so overwhelming that every chemist is rapidly exhausted. You can send Postal Order for 3s or 5s to 633 Camberwell Grove, London, S.E.5, and bottle will be sent by return of post.

LUNG TROUBLE & CONSUMPTION,

BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, CATARRH, Whooping Cough, Children's Cough.

"THE DISEASES THAT BAFFLE THE DOCTORS."

The Marvellous Specific "Liq-u-fruta" that never fails—

—CHRONIC ASTHMA OF EVEN 20 YEARS' STANDING	
—TERRIBLE RACKING BRONCHITIS	
—LUNG TROUBLE WHEN SANATORIA AND MEDICAL TREATMENT HAD FAILED	
—BLOOD SPITTING	—DIFFICULT BREATHING
—BRONCHIAL CATARRH	—QUINSY —CROUP
—PNEUMONIA	—NASAL CATARRH
—LARYNGITIS	—RACKING COUGH
—NIGHT SWEATS	—CHOKING PHLEGM
—INFLUENZA	—EMPHYSEMA

OVER 1,000,000 PRAISE "LIQ-U-FRUTA."

It will remove any case of Asthma or Bronchitis. It will strengthen your lungs and enable you to breathe more freely and efficiently. It will banish every germ of weakness or disease from your throat, nose, and respiratory organs. It arrests even the deadly ravages of tuberculosis, and has banished every trace of Consumption from the lungs of thousands. Instant relief is experienced.

As supplied to the Household of H. M. the King at Windsor Castle.

"I SAVED MY ONLY SON'S LIFE."

My only son lay at the point of death, suffering from several of the above diseases—the most skilled physicians had done their utmost, but unavailingly, for at last my doctor told me nothing more could be done, and that I must be prepared for the end.

Then it was that I discovered "LIQ-U-FRUTA," and saved my only son. "LIQ-U-FRUTA" miraculously saved his life, and since that date the lives of thousands of others.

(Signed) W. HOME-NEWCOMBE.

"Liq-u-fruta" never upsets the Stomach, being purely herbal, it is quite harmless to the infant a day old, or to the elderly with weak hearts.

Mrs. Mansfield, of Stamford, Rutland, on March 20th, writes:—"I have a lot of faith in 'Liq-u-fruta,' for it has cured my daughter when suffering from Consumption in a severe form. She was discharged from Hospital uncured, and stated to be incurable, and it was then I heard of the wonderful results from 'Liq-u-fruta,' and I determined to try it. My daughter had kept her bed for 3½ years, and had to be fed with a spoon, but very soon, as the result of 'Liq-u-fruta,' she got better, and has now recovered and is able to do my housework."

Just what happened to this lady, who suffered from Consumption and Racking Coughs, can happen to you—will happen to you—for there never has been a failure yet.

A COUGH AND "LIQ-U-FRUTA" CANNOT EXIST TOGETHER.

"Liq-u-fruta" is gladly supplied by all the 580 branches of Boots' Cash Chemists, Glasgow Apothecaries, Cockburn & Co. and all Chemists and Stores, 1/3, 3/-, & 5/-, or direct and Post Free from Mr. W. Home-Newcombe, 633 Camberwell Grove, London, S.E.5, for remittance in stamps or postal orders. For 2d. in stamps my book, "Worth its Weight in Gold," published at 1/-, will be sent Post Free.

Liqufruta

CURES EVERYTHING WITH A COUGH IN IT.

EXCHEQUER BONDS RENEWED.

The Bank of England is authorised by the Treasury to receive, until further notice, applications for Five Per Cent. Exchequer Bonds in denominations of £100, £200, £500, £1000, and £5000. Bonds will be repayable at par on 1st April, 1922, but a holder, on giving three calendar months' notice, may require repayment at par on 1st October, 1919. The price of the issue is £100 per cent., and the interest of five per cent. will be payable half-yearly by a coupon. The issue through the Post Office of Five Per Cent. Exchequer Bonds in denominations of £5, £20, and £50 will begin on Wednesday, April 25, on which date prospectuses and forms of application will be available at money order offices throughout the kingdom.

THE GIRL WHO COMPLAINS

A girl can grow too quickly. In her 'teens she should be passing smoothly from girlhood to womanhood. She needs all her blood for development.

One north-country mother had a daughter of fourteen, whom everyone turned to look at. She was tall, straight and beautiful. All the neighbours praised her good looks and charming ways. But at home, where there was only her mother to see, she was pettish, excitable, and restless. She could not sit still. She had a poor appetite—except for sweets. Instead of being happy to lend a hand to the house, she was languid and tired, trailing upstairs with a hand on her back. Soon there began to be days when she could not get up. Her cheeks and lips were pale, and she was out of breath after the least climb.

Someone said to her mother, "That girl is anæmic. She is making bone instead of blood. If you let her go on, you will have an invalid on your hands. Give her Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people; they have saved many a girl in that state." The mother took the hint and in a little while she had her reward—a healthy daughter, who was a promising woman. Take the hint yourself and begin Dr. Williams' pink pills to-day.

The little book, "Plain Talks to Women" (free from Hints Dept., 46 Holborn Viaduct, London), tells women of all ages how to be well; send a postcard for it and other matters to follow.

NATIONAL SERVICE CANVASS IN LEITH.

Leith, Saturday.

The National Service Committee of Leith, after hesitating to institute a canvass of the burgh for volunteers under Mr Neville Chamberlain's scheme, have now decided to proceed with the work. What greatly influenced them to action was the offer of between forty and fifty insurance agents to assist in the canvass. The assistance of the churches is also to be invoked, the desire of Bailie Greig, who is in charge, being to carry through the work with the least possible delay.

WHEN RUN DOWN or weakened by illness, ANDERSON'S QUININE & IRON TONIC comes as a welcome reinforcement to aid you in renewing the battle of life. It does it successfully. Sold in bottles at 1s 3d and 2s 3d each at

JAS. ANDERSON'S DUNDEE DRUG STORES
76-76 COMMERCIAL ST., DUNDEE.
The Depot in Dundee for all Medicines, &c., of Best Quality at Minimum Prices.

SHOPPING BY POST.

Closely set advertisements are inserted under this heading at the prepaid rate of 2d per word.

COCHRANE'S HELP YOU to start a business of your own. Make money selling genuine bargains. Drapery remnants, ready-mades, handkerchiefs. Write for catalogue. Cochrane's Warehouse, 24 Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

WALLPAPERS direct from the manufacturers. Newest designs. Lowest prices. Large or small quantities. Samples free. Morris's, Vicar Lane, Leeds. 5993

SPORTSMEN, farmers, horsemen, 17/ our splendid Yorkshire whipcord tweed; wears like leather; showerproof; 7 yards for 17s 6d. Patterns free. Bradford Woollen Co. (66), Bradford.

MOLE SKINS. Mole Skins.—R. Watson & Co., pioneers of the mole skin industry, the oldest and largest collectors in Great Britain, still continue to pay the highest price for mole, otter, fox, cat, and badger skins, pheasant rafts, plumage, &c. Cash forwarded immediately on receipt of goods. Write for our new price list before sending elsewhere. Note our only address—R. Watson & Co., the "all-British" firm, Dalkeith House, Farringdon St., London, E.C.4.

THE Sunday Album of Sacred Songs, classical and popular; arranged with piano accompaniment. Voice part in staff and tonic sol-fa. Post free, 1s 3d. W. L. Hampton, musicseller, Perth, N.B.

FACTS ABOUT LILLE.

Before long the British hope to be very seriously menacing Lille, the big manufacturing town, often described as the Manchester of France. Lille is a big railway centre, main lines running from there to Ypres, Calais, Arras, Douai, Brussels, and Ghent. Lille, which has a population of considerably over 200,000, fell into the hands of the Germans in October, 1914, but whilst the Huns have reshristened the town Rysel the civilian population feel that the time cannot be far distant when Lille will be freed from the rule of the invaders.

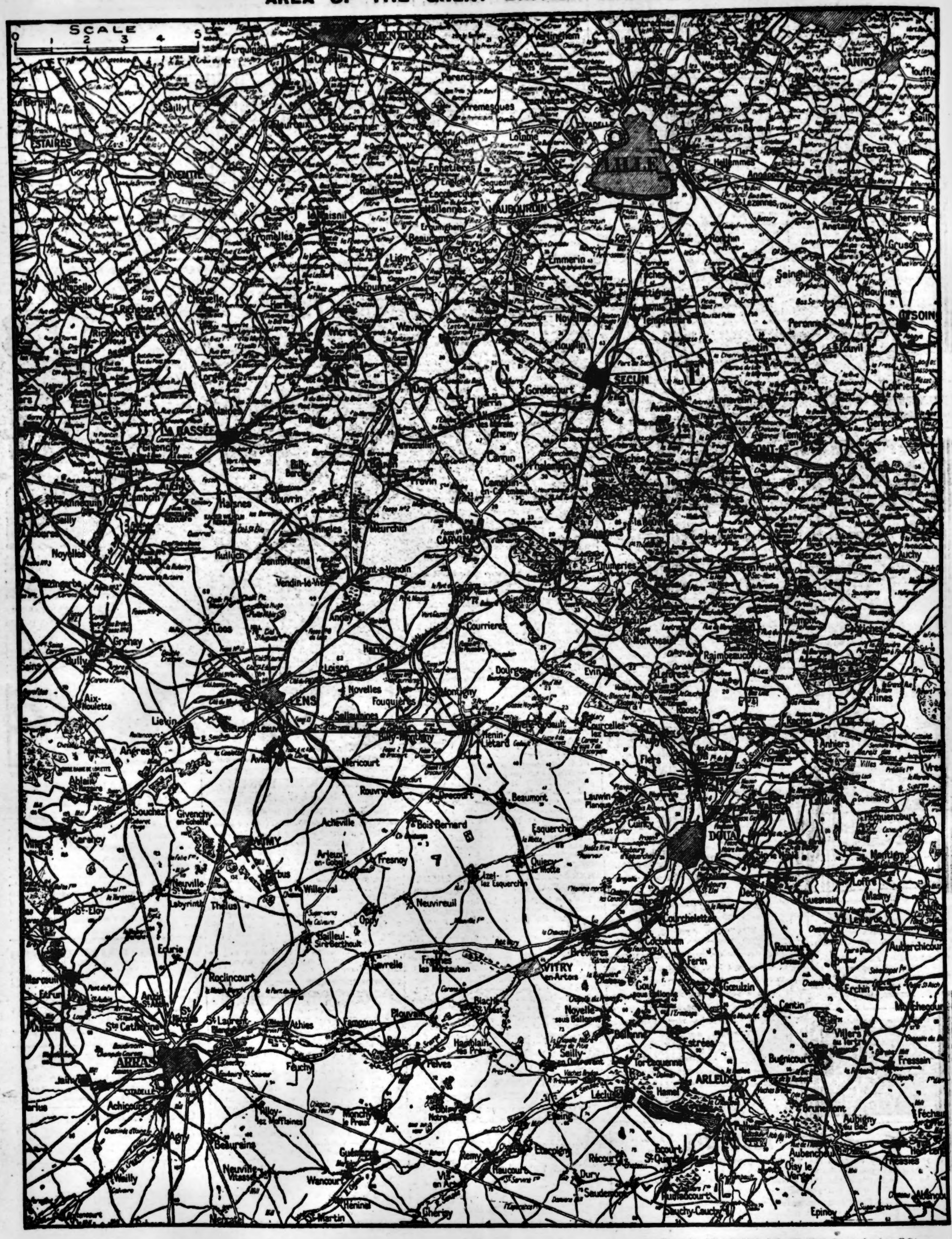
The Post Sunday Special

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 1917.

LENS AND DOUAI.

Lens, where which the British are concentrating, is the key to the fast country towards Douai and Valenciennes. An important industrial town, its population is recorded as being 23,000. Douai is a very vital German position. It is also a big railway centre, with a population of 38,000, and if it falls to the British, as is very confidently hoped, the enemy's hold on Lille will be gravely shaken, especially when the trunk railway running south from Lille through Douai to Cambrai is properly under the fire of our guns.

AREA OF THE GREAT BRITISH ADVANCE.



(Copyright "Geographia," Ltd., 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.)

This map shows in complete detail the area upon which the British are making their great new advance on the 12 miles' front extending from the south of Arras towards Lens. If the German retreat lower down the line was according to Hindenburg's plan—and that is a very debatable point—this latest thrust by the British forces is unquestionably being pursued according to Sir Douglas Haig's plan in a way which is making the Teuton tremble. Certainly it was not Hindenburg's plan to sacrifice on this front many thousands of men, including hundreds of officers, and a big haul of guns. Generals Allenby and Horne were entrusted with the operations which are meeting with great success, the capture of the dominating Vimy Ridge and the fortified villages, the list of which is increasing every day, being made with comparatively slight losses to ourselves, but with heavy losses inflicted upon the enemy. A study of the map gives an indication of the great possibilities of the near future, especially when the British are able to seriously menace the network of railways between Lille, Lens, and Douai.

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